



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2022

No. 86

Senate

(Legislative day of Tuesday, May 17, 2022)

The Senate met at 10 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable TINA SMITH, a Senator from the State of Minnesota.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who stretched the horizon across the ocean, You know we have no power in ourselves. Without You, we cannot prevail.

Remind us of the wisdom of Psalms 127:1, which states:

Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted. Unless the Lord protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good.

Today, work through our lawmakers to build an edifice for freedom that will endure. Lord, inspire them to enact laws that will please You. Use our Senators to produce a harvest of righteousness that exalts our Nation. And, Lord, bless Ukraine.

We pray in Your awesome Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 19, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TINA SMITH, a Senator from the State of Minnesota, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. SMITH thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ADDITIONAL UKRAINE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2022—Resumed

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 7691, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7691) making emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance for the situation in Ukraine for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Schumer amendment No. 5035, to add an effective date.

Schumer amendment No. 5036 (to amendment No. 5035), to modify the effective date.

Schumer motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, Schumer amendment No. 5037, to add an effective date.

Schumer amendment No. 5038 (to the instructions) amendment No. 5037), to modify the effective date.

Schumer amendment No. 5039 (to amendment No. 5038), to modify the effective date.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

H.R. 7691

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, today the Senate will approve more le-

thal assistance for Ukraine, and it is going to be a big bipartisan landslide.

As a matter of moral principle, the United States is proud to support a sovereign democracy's self-defense. Innocent Ukrainians have been subjected to wanton cruelty. But aid for Ukraine goes far beyond charity. The future of America's security and core strategic interests will be shaped by the outcome of this fight.

Anyone concerned about the cost of supporting a Ukrainian victory should consider the much larger costs should Ukraine lose. In Europe, close allies and trading relationships would suddenly be hundreds of miles closer to the territory of an aggressive, emboldened autocrat. Our own security requirements on the continent would grow substantially.

And adversaries on the other side of the world would be tempted to follow Russia's lead. Communist China has already been stepping up its saber-rattling toward the free people of Taiwan: more tough talk, more airspace incursions, more evidence of their utter disregard for the rule of law.

Our friends in the Pacific see this connection very clearly. As Japan's Prime Minister put it, "We must show that there are consequences"—consequences—"to violence by Russia. Ukraine may be East Asia tomorrow."

Many of us are convinced that China is our most significant strategic challenge. Successful, long-term competition with the PRC will require having European partners firmly on our side. We will sorely need the trust and the relationships that abandoning Ukraine would exhaust. Turning our backs on Ukraine would harm our goals in Asia, not advance them.

So I will be a proud vote for America's national interest and vote to approve this badly needed assistance today. I encourage every Senator on

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S2599

both sides to join this bipartisan super-majority. The most expensive and painful thing America could possibly do in the long run would be to stop investing in sovereignty, stability, and deterrence before it is too late.

NATO

Madam President, now on a related matter, last weekend, I was honored to meet with the leaders of Sweden and Finland in their capitals and discuss their pursuit of membership in NATO. Senators COLLINS, CORNYN, BARRASSO, and I visited Stockholm and Helsinki just as their elected governments were preparing to take the historic step of applying for NATO membership.

It will be a further honor to cohost our friends President Niinistö and Prime Minister Andersson here in the Capitol later today.

For 73 years, NATO's collective strength has preserved peace in Europe and security for the United States and for Canada. Even from outside NATO's membership roster, Sweden and Finland have long been two of our most capable and reliable partners. Each has invested seriously in the sort of modern weapons systems that can operate seamlessly alongside our own.

While clearly part of the West, these countries have until now preferred a nonaligned posture. But Putin's aggression has changed everything. It is crystal clear which alliance supports basic international principles like sovereignty, stability, and human rights and which wannabe empires do not.

Europe is rightly recognizing that even if Putin is stopped in Ukraine, he will remain dangerous. He will learn lessons and adapt. More importantly, President Xi will learn lessons as well.

All our allies should take a hard look at their military requirements and invest in modernization. The accession of Sweden and Finland would be a strong step in that direction. Finland recently agreed to buy 64 F-35 fighter planes. They already commit 2 percent of their GDP to defense, and Sweden is on pace to reach that target very soon. These nations are setting an example which current treaty allies would do well to follow.

So I will be proud to continue amplifying their case for accession however I can, beginning with the meeting the Democratic leader and I will host later today.

INFLATION

Madam President, now on one final matter, today, the average price that American families pay for regular unleaded set an alltime high for the 10th day in a row—10 straight days of recordbreaking gas prices.

Getting to work, running errands, driving to church, visiting loved ones, hitting the highway for a modest family vacation—all of it costs 88 percent more at the pump today than it cost when President Biden put his hand on the Bible last year. And it is not even Memorial Day yet. The unofficial summer driving season hasn't even begun.

To be clear, this is not just Putin's price hike. The year 2021 saw the big-

gest 1-year gas price increase in three decades, and that was actually before Russia's escalation in Ukraine. Farmers and ranchers, truckers, and small business owners are struggling to keep their tractors, 18-wheelers, and other work vehicles full of diesel.

So in addition to having to fill up their own tanks, working families are paying for high fuel prices again at the checkout counter. One constituent in Johnson County in my State wrote to my office to lament that "rapidly increasing gas prices are making it difficult for everyday people like me to make ends meet." He said he is facing "rising costs" but "stagnant wages."

Another, in Ashland, described driving past a gas station on his way to work and seeing that prices had hit \$4.25 a gallon. He said he is "fortunate to be able to pay those prices" but worried "others would have to start giving up other things just to put gas in their car."

A third, in Brandenburg, was dismayed that the Biden administration decided to kill energy lease sales while gas prices are raging. He noted how "the timing and nature of this decision display a disturbing disregard" for the situation facing American families.

Since day one, from canceling Keystone XL to freezing leases for new exploration, President Biden himself has put American energy independence on the chopping block.

But while Americans suffer, the far left just digs in deeper. Just yesterday, for example, Secretary Granholm said the "volatility in prices" was just more reason to "accelerate" the supposedly green energy transition that Democrats have tried to force on the country, literally, for years.

Forget that their preferred energy sources aren't yet reliable or cost-effective. Forget that they would just be exchanging one kind of foreign dependence for new kinds of foreign dependence on Russian critical minerals and Chinese supply chains for solar panels and batteries. Democrats' proposals fall embarrassingly short.

I understand the House is wasting its time to pretend inflation is all the fault of evil corporate profiteers—evil corporate profiteers. I guess the profit motive hadn't been invented yet in 2019 when Republicans had unemployment low and inflation low at the very same time.

The liberal economist, Larry Summers, calls the House Democrats' bill—listen to this—"dangerous nonsense." "Dangerous nonsense." Bill Clinton's Secretary of the Treasury.

Jason Furman, another senior Obama adviser, has said the far-left claims about so-called "greed-flation" are, in fact, "unequivocally wrong and confused." Both Summers and Furman were part of the Obama administration.

The Biden administration has also drained our Strategic Petroleum Reserve to its lowest levels since 1987 in a frantic effort to lower prices. Predict-

ably, this gimmick failed, and now we are much less prepared for a possible future crisis.

You will recall that Senate Democrats gleefully blocked Republicans from refilling the Strategic Reserve to the top back in 2020 when oil was at rock-bottom prices. We tried to do that. These guys blocked it. We could have filled the Reserve to the top when crude was on a clearance sale, but Democrats blocked it and bragged about blocking it.

Washington Democrats keep finding new ways to fundamentally misunderstand America's energy needs.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO BRAD MIDDLETON

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, it was over a half century ago that Senator Robert Kennedy delivered one of the most important speeches of his life. It wasn't in the Capitol. It wasn't even in the United States. It was in South Africa during the darkest days of apartheid.

Senator Kennedy traveled to the University of Cape Town for the school's Day of Affirmation, a day to celebrate liberty and inclusivity. He told the students at that school that they had the power to change the world. He said:

Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts improve the lot for others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

For the past 15 years, I have had as a member of my staff a man who knows a great deal about ripples of hope. His name is Brad Middleton. This week, he is moving on, leaving my office, sadly.

Over the years, Brad has worn many hats. For the last few years, he has been my top adviser on education. In that role, he has been my invaluable right hand in efforts to hold predatory for-profit colleges accountable.

He has done a phenomenal amount of work in making college affordable for millions of students, recently with the Affordable College Textbook Act. Soon, he is going to be taking his talents to President Biden's Department of Education, where he will continue his advocacy for students and their families. He will be a Senior Advisor for Strategy for the Department to investigate bad actors that cheat students, their families, and the taxpayers. It is quite the accomplishment for a rock star from Rock Falls, but I know Brad is going to handle it well.

He joined my office in 2006, a fresh-faced intern in Springfield. In the years

since, he has gone from answering the phones in our front office to counseling me on a wide range of serious policy questions. Before becoming my point person on education, he worked on my foreign policy team, and he helped pass the International Protecting Girls by Preventing Child Marriage Act. And he worked on the Judiciary team as well.

Every step of the way, Brad's been guided by faith, a passion for public service, and an unshakeable devotion to the people of my State. Brad comes from a long line of proud Illinoisans and public servants. His dad Jay is a corn seed salesman like his father before him. His mom Lori was a State court reporter who retired last August after 40 years of service to Lee County. Lori's commitment to public service made a mark on Brad. From the moment he could walk and talk, Brad expressed a desire to get involved and to serve.

His journey into politics started very young, in the first grade, when he was elected class president. Brad took his job very seriously, and he kept his ear to the ground on the issues facing the first grade in his day. While his friends were watching cartoons, Brad was sitting on the couch with his parents watching the news on the Gulf war and the election of President Clinton. That was the first Middleton administration.

The second Middleton administration was inaugurated in the halls of the famous school Knox College. As student senate president, Brad banned plastic trays from the dining hall, a defining policy in his sustainability platform even in those days.

Brad is remembered so fondly on the Knox College campus. Several years ago, I was invited to deliver the commencement address there, and I arrived with Brad accompanying me. When I arrived, it was clear that they were happy to see me; they were excited to see Brad.

Illinois has no stronger champion than Brad Middleton. Let me give you one example. About 10 years ago, Brad left Washington, at my request, to open up our new Rock Island, IL, office, about an hour west of his hometown Rock Falls. Brad took it upon himself to make sure the community that raised him had the best representation in Washington. He always took it personally to deliver for the people of Illinois.

For a while, it was just Brad leading the show in the Quad Cities as a solo act, with little more than a clipboard, folding chair, and a determination to get the office open and running. Now that office is a linchpin in our efforts to serve the people in the State and untangle the redtape of government.

It is one of the many "tiny ripples of hope" that Brad has sent forth over the years.

Here is one more. Back when Brad worked with my foreign policy team, he personally led the effort to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Muhammad Yunus, a Bangladeshi

economist and personal friend of mine who pioneered the concept of micro-lending. He was awarded the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize and is known as the "banker to the poor."

Leading up to the vote, the walls in Brad's office were covered in sticky notes, each one listing the name of a lawmaker who had yet to voice support for Dr. Yunus's medal. Brad meticulously reached out to staff of every one of those lawmakers. One by one, he won their support, and the bill passed both Chambers of Congress. Thanks to Brad, Dr. Yunus became the first Muslim to receive the Congressional Gold Medal.

Brad, from every Christmas tree you have carried into my office for the holiday season to every college student you helped find financial help, you have been an indispensable part of my team. You created those ripples of hope that continue to touch lives for years to come.

I hope you get well-deserved time off in the cabin in the Shenandoah area with your girlfriend Claire, your brother Ben, who also serves his community as a police officer in East Peoria, your sister-in-law Katie, and little Theodore and Rorie, your niece and nephew.

Be sure to kick back with the appropriate refreshment and a plate of piping hot fish because your next mission in public service begins immediately.

I am confident you will do well. Thank you to all you have given me and the people in my State.

NATO

Madam President, I had a visit yesterday from a group of parliamentarians from Lithuania.

Lithuania has a special place in my heart. It is where my mother was born, and I have been fortunate enough to visit there several times over the last 40 years. I saw Lithuania in its darkest days as part of the Soviet Union, and I watched their heroic struggle against the odds to win independence from the Soviet Union.

I have been there to see a free government installed again and to watch this amazing little country grow into a powerhouse, not just economically but culturally and spiritually. I say that because I believe that, time and again, Lithuania has stepped up to the international challenge.

It was my honor to work to bring NATO alliance status to the Baltics and certainly to Lithuania. It has made all the difference in the world. When I think of Vladimir Putin's unprovoked attacks on Ukraine, I can't help but believe that the Baltics would have fallen to Putin and his aggression long ago if he had his way. What held him back was not just the courage of the people who live there but the fact that they had many friends willing to stand behind them—members of the EU and certainly members of the NATO alliance.

Lithuania has taken their role in the alliance so seriously. They have pledged soldiers and military support,

time and again, when the NATO alliances picked a targeted strategy. They are always part of the answer and glad to be.

They have dedicated 2.5 percent on their annual budget to the military. I believe they rank third in the NATO ranks in percentage of budget that they are dedicating to the defense of the country. They may be small, but they are mighty.

Yesterday, the group who came to see me, led by the new Lithuania Ambassador, Audra Plepyte, including Lukas Savickas, deputy chairman of the Committee for the Future; Vydas Gedvilas, Deputy Speaker of Parliament; and Mr. Zygimantas Pavilionis, deputy chairman of the Committee on European Affairs.

We talked about the current situation in Ukraine. They feel it personally, but they also feel personally the aggression of Vladimir Putin. Not far from Lithuania is a part of Russia to the west of Lithuania known as Kaliningrad. Kaliningrad is a military fortress established by the Russians on the doorstep of Lithuania and Poland. It is a source of growing concern because of the armaments which we believe were placed there as a threat to the region.

That is why NATO has made special plans for the Baltics to reinforce a commitment—a commitment which includes German troops who are now helping out in Lithuania, Canadian troops in Latvia, and British troops in Estonia. That sort of commitment is one that needs to be reinforced.

I am going to ask that our government consider strengthening that commitment in the future or working on the details now. But the Baltics are a critical element in the region, not only in our friendship and our alliance but in the future.

I support the accession of Finland and Sweden to NATO. I hope that is agreed on at the NATO summit in Madrid in just a few weeks.

I believe that will help the Baltics as well to have that solid neighbor in Finland as part of the NATO alliance. It is interesting to note that what has happened since the invasion of Ukraine is exactly the opposite of what Vladimir Putin expected.

He thought Ukraine would be a pushover. It is far from that. The courage and bravery and resilience of those Ukrainian people have fought back the mighty Russian military machine time and time again. They were no pushover and they never will be, and the day will come when they have their peace and sovereignty restored from this aggression.

Secondly, I am sure Putin thought when this was all over, his dream of restoring the Russian empire would mean that they would be stronger than ever, but daily reports tell that the sanctions are taking their toll on the economy of Russia, and not just in the short term.

I was in Moscow. I remember the early days and the arrival of the first

McDonald's restaurant. It was in Soviet times, and it was an amazing event to think that this western corporation would locate a restaurant in Moscow in the middle of the Soviet Union, and they did.

I can remember the dreary, dark-gray scenes in Moscow interrupted and punctuated by those golden arches as a reminder that the West was going to show to the people of Moscow what was available under a free economic policy in a free society.

Sadly now, the McDonald's Corporation has made the right decision to pull out of Russia. Hundreds of restaurants will be closed as a result of it. It is an indication to the people of Russia that they have to make a choice about their future, do they want to go down the dark and perilous road with Vladimir Putin, or do they want to emerge as a 21st Century free country that is inspired by democracy and not by authoritarianism?

I thank my friends in Lithuania who time and again have stood by us, and we by them, and make sure that they continue to, whether it is making certain that the legitimate Presidential candidates in Belarus have safety and refuge in their country or making certain that they speak up for human rights in places around the world where others fear to tread.

They have done that time and again, and they will continue to. I am looking forward to returning to that country soon. I have been there many times, and I hope to be back soon.

Just this weekend, Sweden and Finland declared their intention to apply for rapid NATO membership. Who can blame them? At the Munich conference, I spoke with Finnish President Sauli Niinistö—what an amazing person. He enjoys an 80 or 90 percent approval rating, a dream of every politician, and they are talking about waiving the constitutional limitation on terms in office so he can serve another term.

He was an appellate lawyer, which doesn't sound like a very exciting lot in life, but when he became President, he really understood the people of Finland and has led them with wisdom and thoughtful leadership.

He has attempted to maintain a constructive relationship with Putin. If you read the history of Finland, you can understand how they managed to stay somewhat neutral during the Cold War when many countries couldn't even imagine that possibility, and, despite their proximity to the Soviet Union, they managed to pull it off. Their relationship with Putin, though, has been shaken, if not destroyed, when Putin decided to invade Ukraine. The Finnish President Niinistö said when he spoke to Putin on the telephone that he should "look in the mirror"—those were his exact words—if he wanted to know why Finland was now considering membership with the NATO alliance.

A few months ago when I spoke to former Lithuanian President Valdas

Adamkus, about his historic efforts to bring Lithuania into NATO in 2004, he talked to me about the courage it took for him and for President Vytautas Landsbergis—who I guess was the originator of the Sajudis movement that made such a difference in the pursuit of freedom and democracy in Lithuania. They knew the importance, both of them, Landsbergis and Adamkus, in solidly building their nation in that defensive alliance and never again running the risk that they would lose everything overnight to the onslaught of Soviet and Russian aggression.

Is it any wonder that these small but mighty Baltic States are some of the most vocal in defending democracy in Ukraine? They have lived it. They have been under the shadow of Russia and the Soviet Union for so many years and now finally stand proudly with their own sovereignty and their own human rights' record.

So I applaud Sweden and Finland's decision and hope we can approve their entry into NATO with haste.

H.R. 7691

Mr. President, here in the Senate we have another immediate need as well: to pass this supplemental funding package for Ukraine. It is embarrassing to say that we had to wait a full calendar week in the midst of a bloody war where innocent people are dying and a nation has been driven and reduced to rubble to sit here for a political purpose and wait for this week for the approval of U.S. aid to Ukraine. It should have happened immediately last week. No excuses.

I applaud the House of Representatives for taking quick and decisive action. This bill shouldn't be delayed in the Senate any longer. It is time for us to stand up once and for all and make it clear we are standing by Ukraine and the defense of democracy.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). The Senator from South Dakota.

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, this Saturday will be Armed Forces Day, a day set aside to honor the members of the U.S. military.

I first came to know the military through my dad Harold, a fighter pilot who flew Hellcats off of the deck of the USS *Intrepid* during World War II. From him, I learned the patriotism and selflessness and humility that characterized the "greatest generation" and that continue to characterize our military members today.

As a Member of Congress, I have come to know our military through the men and women of the South Dakota Army and Air National Guard and through the airmen of Ellsworth Air Force Base.

As I have said before, I may be biased, but I am convinced that South Dakota has the most outstanding Guard troops in the entire Nation. As usual, they have been busy over the past year.

On Saturday, the National Guard welcomed home guardsmen from a de-

ployment in Djibouti, where our Guard has had a heavy rotation to support operations in the Horn of Africa, and honored Guard members who were headed to deployment in Europe. Guard members helped with the response to last week's severe storms in South Dakota. They deployed to the border to reinforce an overstretched Border Patrol. They deployed to Guantanamo Bay. The 114th Fighter Wing at Joe Foss Field completed a Noble Eagle deployment across the country to hone their alert mission. Just a few weeks ago, 30 National Guard members traveled to Suriname, where they trained military personnel and provided support to local communities. And the list goes on.

South Dakota National Guard members play an essential role in military and humanitarian operations both here at home and abroad, and I am tremendously grateful for their service.

My acquaintance with Ellsworth Air Force Base began during my time in the House of Representatives, but I really got to know the base shortly after I became a Senator.

Just a few months into my first term in the Senate, Ellsworth found itself targeted for closure by the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission, and the South Dakota congressional delegation and State and community leaders immediately mobilized to defend the base. I am pretty sure I attended every single BRAC hearing in DC that summer, whether Ellsworth was on the agenda or not. I just wanted to make sure that I was there in case the chance to advocate for Ellsworth arose.

Many thought that South Dakota might not have the clout to make this stand, that we didn't wield enough influence. We were only given about 12 percent odds of pulling through. But we were determined that we weren't going to lose Ellsworth, and in August, we succeeded in having Ellsworth removed from the closure list.

But we didn't stop there. We got right to work on building up the base so that we would never again find ourselves in the same position. In 2007, we saw the Air Force Financial Services Center open at Ellsworth, and 2011 saw the arrival of the 89th Attack Squadron and its command and control stations for MQ-9 Reapers.

In 2015, a decades-long effort paid off with the expansion of the training airspace for the base. The Powder River Training Complex is now the largest training airspace in the continental United States. It is undoubtedly partly thanks to this airspace that Ellsworth received the news last June that we had officially been named Main Operating Base 1 for the future B-21 bomber—"Home of the Raider."

This designation not only means that Ellsworth will be the first base to host the B-21 Raider but that it will also host the formal training unit and the first operational squadron. Once operational, the B-21 Raider will be a critical part of our Nation's long-range

strike capabilities and nuclear deterrence well into the future.

I am incredibly proud South Dakota and Ellsworth were chosen to serve as the first base for the B-21s. My focus now is on ensuring that Ellsworth gets everything it needs for that new mission so that it can continue to serve as one of our Nation's most essential military assets for decades to come.

To that end, I worked to ensure that last year's National Defense Authorization Act contained not only full funding for B-21 development but full funding for the first of many equipment support facilities that will be needed for the B-21 mission at Ellsworth, including a low observable coating restoration facility, a wash rack and maintenance hangar, an expanded flight simulator facility, and more. Ellsworth is well on its way to becoming "Raider Country."

There is more new construction on the way. Currently, I am working to secure additional funding for the low observable coating restoration facility as well as funding for two additional construction projects—a weapons generation facility and a radio frequency facility. Both will be needed to ensure that Ellsworth is able to fully conduct the nuclear and stealth B-21 missions.

I am also working to ensure that the Air Force is able to invest in unmanned systems to complement the mission of the B-21. And I continue to work to enhance the Powder River Training Complex.

I intend to introduce a measure for this year's National Defense Authorization Act to establish a pilot program that would develop "dynamic airspace," the more efficient scheduling of airspace and airspace boundaries that evolve as exercises or other flights progress.

I believe dynamic airspace will better enable the Pentagon to meet training requirements for fifth-generation aircraft like the B-21, which need larger volumes of airspace to accommodate longer engagement distances. However, dynamic airspace should benefit all users of the National Airspace System, from commercial planes and general aviation to unmanned aircraft systems and space launches.

I look forward to working with the leaders of the Armed Services and Commerce Committees to advance this proposal.

I am also focused on ensuring that Ellsworth has the resources it needs to take care of our military families, particularly as more families move into the area with the impending arrival of the B-21 mission. That includes making sure that ample housing is available and that Douglas School District is able to support Air Force members' children and provide sufficient classroom space.

These are critical—critical—quality-of-life issues for our military men and women, matters that heavily influence whether they want to stay in the service or move to the private sector,

where many of their skills are in high demand.

I am committed to ensuring that our military families are able to thrive at Ellsworth.

Finally, as always, I continue to focus on making sure that our B-1s have the resources they need. We still have a ways to go before our B-1s are fully replaced by the B-21, and I am committed to ensuring that our B-1s remain a responsive and lethal component of Global Strike Command until their mission is over.

On Armed Forces Day and every day, I am more grateful than I can say for our Ellsworth airmen, our South Dakota Army and Air National Guard, and all the men and women of the U.S. military. It is because of them that we live in peace and safety, and the freedom we enjoy is secured by their sacrifice.

May God bless all our military men and women and keep them safe as they stand on watch for us.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

H.R. 7691

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, in just a few moments, the Senate is going to pass H.R. 7691. It is an emergency supplemental to provide funding to Ukraine and to stem the global hunger crisis exacerbated by Vladimir Putin's unprovoked war.

It is something, of course, that has been followed very closely in the Senate Appropriations Committee, and I am strongly in favor of this bill as chair of that committee. It is a shame that, because of the actions of one Senator, we could not pass this urgently needed bill, which is going to receive overwhelming bipartisan support, last week. To confront Vladimir Putin on the global stage, we have to stand united.

Later tonight, I am going to be leading a delegation to Brussels. Tomorrow, we will receive an update from NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg on Ukraine and why the new resources provided in this bill are urgently needed. It will be a bipartisan delegation I am leading, and I am going to be proud to tell the NATO Secretary General that we came together in the U.S. Senate and the House to pass this appropriation.

The bill provides \$40.1 billion in critical military and humanitarian assistance for Ukraine to help defend Ukraine's sovereignty and democracy abroad and address the rising global hunger crisis. This includes \$8.5 billion in additional Presidential drawdown authority for critical weapons transfers, \$8.5 billion for the Economic Sup-

port Fund to respond to emerging needs in Ukraine, and over \$5 billion for global food aid, for which the distinguished Presiding Officer has argued for some time.

As chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee and, proudly, as President pro tempore of this body, I strongly support its passage.

With that said, it is frustrating once again that we have failed to provide the needed funding to address the ongoing COVID pandemic. Public health experts warn us every day that the virus is not done with us; a new wave of cases is expected to crash over our country in the fall. For months, the administration has warned that we do not have the necessary vaccines, therapeutics, tests, and other resources to stay ahead of this virus.

Today, countries around the world are already placing orders for the next generation of vaccines, and they are going to be better suited to the variants we face now but also to the variants we will face in the future. The United States is not one of those countries, and without the necessary resources, we are going to fall farther back in line, and more Americans will die needlessly. We will also run out of needed funds for testing and therapeutics before the next wave.

After more than 2 years and 1 million American lives lost to this disease, time and again, we have been caught flatfooted because we have refused to prepare for the worst. As chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will continue to fight for these urgently needed resources in the coming weeks, and I hope both Republicans and Democrats will join me on that.

It is for the good of the American people, the people we represent. If you get COVID and are hospitalized or get one of the variants and face possible death, nobody cares whether you are a Republican or a Democrat; you are an American, and we should be doing what we can to protect you.

The people of Ukraine and the millions facing acute food insecurity require the funds in this bill today. I strongly urge the Senate to pass it without further delay.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the vote be delayed for a little bit—10 minutes—so I can give my opening remarks and so the Senator from Hawaii and I can do a quick UC.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

H.R. 7691

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today, the U.S. Senate will keep its promise to stand with the people of Ukraine. In a few moments, we will begin voting to finally pass \$40 billion in military, economic, and humanitarian aid that President Biden has called on Congress to approve. This is a large package, and it will meet the large needs of the Ukrainian people as they fight for their survival.

As President Zelenskyy has said, the Ukrainians are caught up in a fight for democracy—the very democracy we love—itself. It is a fight we should not and cannot turn away from.

By passing this emergency aid, the Senate can now say to the Ukrainian people: Help is on the way—real help, significant help, help that could make sure that the Ukrainians are victorious.

Help is on the way in the form of Javelins and Stingers and howitzers and other tools that are critical for victory on the battlefield.

Help is on the way in the form of food and shelter and supplies for the 6 million Ukrainians who fled to neighboring nations because of the brutal, brutal, nasty, horrible bombardment by Putin, who I believe is a war criminal.

Help is on the way in the form of economic aid and food aid and the assistance necessary to rebuild what Putin and Russia have sought to tear down but never can. They can't tear down the hearts, the minds, and the strength of the Ukrainian people.

Now, given how important this is, I wish I could say this vote will be totally unanimous. Every single Democrat in the House voted for this emergency aid package for Ukraine, and every single Democrat in this Chamber, the Senate, is ready to support the Ukrainians as they defend their young democracy, but unfortunately, once again, with MAGA Republicans, who seem to be way out of line in so many ways, the story is different on the Republican side.

While most Senators in both parties want this package done, it is beyond troubling to see a growing circle of Senate Republicans proudly opposing Ukrainian funding. Two days ago, 11 Republicans voted against merely debating this legislation. It appears more and more MAGA Republicans are on the same “soft on Putin” playbook that we saw used by former President Trump. We all knew how President Trump reacted to Putin. Sometimes it was flattery. Sometimes it was just fear—he was fearful—but he always seemed to go along and bow down to Putin. Now we have seen Putin's brutality, and we have seen how wrong Trump was, but these 11 MAGA Republicans voted against even debating.

Around the world, our enemies are watching what we do right now. What do you think they are going to conclude if they start seeing more and

more U.S. Senators oppose aid to democracies under attack by authoritarianism? Our adversaries might conclude that we are divided, that America is divided. They might conclude that we lack purpose. The MAGA influence on the Republican Party is becoming all too large and all too dominant.

We Americans—all of us, Democratic and Republican—cannot afford to stick our heads in the sand while Vladimir Putin continues his vicious belligerence against the Ukrainian people, while he fires at civilian hospitals and targets and kills children and innocent people. But when Republicans, in a significant number, oppose this package, that is precisely the signal we are sending to enemies abroad.

Still, I am glad that, for the most part, this Chamber is united in supporting Ukraine; and I am also glad, Mr. President, that yesterday, on the same day that American diplomats and marines raised Stars and Stripes over the American Embassy in Kyiv, this Chamber unanimously voted Bridget Brink as the U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine. It is the first time we have an ambassador to Ukraine since 2019, and her confirmation is terrific news that comes at a critical moment for both our countries.

NATO

Mr. President, finally, later today, Leader McCONNELL and I will host a bipartisan meeting with the leaders of Finland and Sweden. Their application to NATO will soon come before this Chamber. And just as we quickly worked to confirm Ambassador Brink, I hope we will be able to act swiftly and in a bipartisan way on the resolution admitting these nations into the ranks of the NATO alliance.

SMALL BUSINESS COVID RELIEF ACT OF 2022

Mr. President, now on another matter—restaurants—later today, the Senate is going to vote to move forward to give America's restaurants, local gyms, minor league teams, and other small businesses a much needed lifeline to get back on their feet after 2 years of pandemic. I thank Senators CARDIN and WICKER for their efforts on today's legislation.

Every single component of this bill was drafted with bipartisan input. The benefits would help businesses in every single State in America, particularly those left out of earlier rounds of emergency funding. We should be leaping into action—leaping into action—to help these places get back on their feet in times of recovery.

Restaurants, gyms, teams, and small venues are all in the business of providing for their communities. Today we should be in the business of providing for them. Some say that 2 years after the start of COVID, our restaurants don't need as much help as they once did. They think that because lockdowns are over, because people seem to be out and about again, it must mean things are going great for small businesses.

That is dead wrong for too many of our businesses, especially small, family-owned places. Many can't stay open a full day because they are short of labor, don't serve lunch, close Monday and Tuesday, don't have people at the bar. So they can't get their full income. And at the same time, many of these undertook big loans when they were closed during COVID.

Those big loans are coming due. To have banks foreclose on these ongoing businesses that are growing once again, that are employing people once again would be a huge mistake. This bill is a lifeline to prevent that from happening and keep jobs coming in and keep prosperity coming in.

So that is true for restaurants; it is true for other businesses; and we must pass this legislation to keep these vital parts of America's economy and America's social and community life going. When minor league teams close, entire towns have fewer options for coming together. When theaters can't open because businesses they rely on close down, it disintegrates the fabric of our communities. Restaurants, gyms, sports venues, theaters—these are places where Americans have always come together, and they still need our help.

I urge all of us who have heard from small business owners imploring us to take action to support moving forward on today's bill, and, once again, I thank my colleagues CARDIN and WICKER for their work.

DOMESTIC TERRORISM

Mr. President, now on domestic terrorism, my home State of New York, as everyone knows, is still grieving from the horrendous violence that took place in Buffalo Saturday. The people I met in Buffalo on Tuesday are with me almost every moment: the families, the survivors, the community. It was the worst shooting in Buffalo's history. Ten innocent people were killed, all of them Black Americans.

What happened in Buffalo was clearly a result of domestic terrorism—terrorism fed from the madness of conspiracy theories like “White replacement theory,” which is increasingly finding a home with MAGA Republicans and cable networks like FOX News. Yesterday, I announced that the Senate will move forward on legislation championed by Senator DURBIN to fight back against the rise of domestic terrorism in America.

In the light of the shooting in Buffalo, in the light of the rise of racist conspiracies like the “great replacement,” we—all of us—have an obligation to protect Americans by treating these incidents of violence like the terrorist acts they are. I hope that, given everything that is happening across the country right now, our Republicans will join us to pass this bill swiftly.

Taking a stand against White supremacy and domestic terrorism should be the easiest thing in the world. When any single community is targeted by racism, it affects every one of us.

So we are going to take action next week on domestic terrorism legislation, and I hope both sides send an unmistakable message against the ascension of White supremacy that threatens the fabric of this Nation.

BABY FORMULA

Mr. President, one final note on baby formula, yesterday, President Biden invoked the Defense Production Act to respond to the shortage of baby formula that is hurting parents and caretakers of newborns across the country. The President is taking the issue seriously. Invoking the DPA was exactly the right response.

I cannot imagine how hard the shortage is for families who have been impacted. There is already such a burden on a mother of a newborn child; we can't let this formula shortage be another stressor for mothers in this country.

The Senate should likewise take action to help our Nation's parents. Yesterday, the House passed a pair of bills to address the baby formula shortage—including one with over 400 votes—that will make sure that parents who rely on the Federal nutrition programs can continue to access baby formula in the face of supply chain shortages. I hope the Senate will pass both of these bills.

Here in the Senate, Senator STABENOW and Senator BOOZMAN are championing nearly identical legislation to the bipartisan WIC bill that overwhelmingly passed the House. I hope the Senate can consider this bill immediately and send it to the President so we can send swift and tangible assistance to working parents feeling the brunt of this shortage.

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE ACT

Mr. President, on one additional very happy note, today, my colleague Senator HIRONO, in a few minutes, will ask consent to pass important legislation to create a congressional Commission on the creation of the first national Asian-American history and culture museum right here in the Nation's Capitol.

I am elated and thrilled to support bringing to the floor and voting for this long-overdue step that will help establish one of the greatest museums dedicated solely to telling the story of Asian Americans throughout history. It is a story that is long overdue.

Asian Americans, from the country's founding, have played a giant role in shaping our country. Much of that history is unknown. And we see the growing and vibrant Asian community, from so many parts of the world—from the Middle East, from South Asia, from East Asia, from Southeast Asia, and everywhere else—all coming to America and working hard and growing families and establishing businesses and making America great.

With all the bigotry that we have seen and the increase in violence now on Asian Americans, we have to rebut that nasty view that some people have.

And forming a museum that will show the greatness of this community—past, present, and future—will be so important because, from the beginning of our founding, Asian Americans have played a great role in shaping the country.

Too much of the history is unknown. Students never even come across these stories and lessons in school. That is disappointing. But it is also why this Asian-American history and culture museum is so important. An Asian-American history and culture museum would celebrate the achievements with all Americans and all the world and exalt our wonderful, growing, strong, beautiful Asian-American community.

I thank Senator HIRONO for her work and yield the floor to her.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak up to 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE ACT

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader for his words and his very strong support of the Asian-Pacific American community and his support for this bill that I am calling forth today.

As we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, we have an opportunity to pass meaningful legislation to establish a Commission to study the creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture.

This bill is straightforward. It establishes an eight-person Commission, appointed equally by House and Senate majority and minority leadership. The Commission will be composed of individuals with expertise in the research, study, and promotion of Asian-Pacific American history.

This Commission will submit a report to Congress, at which point we should act. Asian and Pacific Islander American communities have made significant contributions to American life, but despite these undeniable contributions, our communities have largely been excluded or erased from American history. If not invisible, API groups are often pejoratively depicted as foreigners, always "the other," instead of people who have lived in and positively contributed to this country for generations.

These narratives have fueled xenophobia and racism, contributing to decades of racism, racist laws, and discrimination—and, of course, most recently led to the rise in attacks in hate-related incidents against members of our communities.

A National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture would help combat these harmful narratives

by sharing API history on an unprecedented scale, and we should consider whether or not such a museum should be feasible.

With this bill, we can demonstrate our commitment to showcasing the significant contributions of the API community to our country's fabric. I think it is really important for our country to better understand how the Chinese Exclusion Act, Executive Order No. 9066, which led to the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II and decades of racial laws, contribute to the API experience today.

The establishment of this kind of museum should not be controversial, and it has been done before with regard to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the National Museum of the American the Latino. These museums represent progress. They help us better understand one another and our shared history as Americans.

Now we have a chance to build on this progress by creating a Commission to study a similar museum to highlight the history and legacy of the API individuals and communities in this country, and, of course, this bill represents a significant step toward an America that celebrates and encourages the rich diversity of our people.

With that, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3525 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3525) to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3525) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

BLACKWELL SCHOOL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ACT

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 300, S. 2490.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2490) to establish the Blackwell School National Historic Site in Marfa, Texas, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which

had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I thank Senator CORNYN for this bill that we are about to agree to by unanimous consent. It is called the Blackwell School National Historic Site Act.

I ask unanimous consent that the Cornyn amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 5042) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To modify the map information)

On page 4, strike lines 7 and 8 and insert the following:

(1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map entitled “Blackwell School National Historic Site Proposed Boundary”, numbered 593/178387, and dated February 2022.

On page 5, strike lines 21 through 24.

On page 6, line 1, strike “(2)” and insert “(1)”.

On page 6, line 4, strike “(3)” and insert “(2)”.

The bill (S. 2490), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2490

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Blackwell School National Historic Site Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the Blackwell School, located at 501 South Abbott Street, in Marfa, Presidio County, Texas, is—

(A) associated with the period of racial segregation in Marfa public schools; and

(B) the only extant property directly associated with Hispanic education in Marfa since the other buildings were torn down after the Blackwell School closed in 1965;

(2) the Blackwell School is a tangible reminder of the period during which the doctrine of “separate but equal” dominated education and social systems;

(3) despite being categorized as “white” by Texas law, Mexican Americans were regularly excluded from commingling with Anglo individuals at barbershops, restaurants, funeral homes, theaters, churches, and schools;

(4) the spectrum of experiences of students and teachers at the Blackwell School are an important record of life in a segregated school in the context of the history of Texas and the United States;

(5) Mexican and Mexican American culture and history in Marfa is tied to the Blackwell School, which for more than 50 years served as a leading feature of the Hispanic community, illustrating the challenge of maintaining cultural identity in a dominant Anglo society;

(6) Hispanic influences continue to be seen in social and religious organizations, business and government institutions, and shared experiences of language, food, and music in Marfa, Texas;

(7) the historic Blackwell School building is a physical record of—

(A) the longevity and beauty of the distinctive design and craftsmanship informed by traditional techniques and materials; and

(B) the transition from the purely vernacular to the period of materials, design, and workmanship made available after the arrival of the railroad;

(8) the original historic school building and grounds on which the Blackwell School building stands provide an authentic setting to commemorate and interpret the history of the Blackwell School;

(9) the Blackwell School is closely associated with the broad patterns of local, State, and national history in the area of school segregation; and

(10) Mexicans and other members of the Latin American diaspora have placed a high value on education as a means of economic, social, and political advancement, but Hispanics and Latinos have not always had equitable opportunities and access to quality educational facilities in the United States.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map entitled “Blackwell School National Historic Site Proposed Boundary”, numbered 593/178387, and dated February 2022.

(2) NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.—The term “National Historic Site” means the Blackwell School National Historic Site established by section 4(a)(1).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BLACKWELL SCHOOL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), there is established the Blackwell School National Historic Site in the State of Texas as a unit of the National Park System to preserve, protect, and interpret for the benefit of present and future generations the Blackwell School, including—

(A) the role of the Blackwell School as an academic and cultural cornerstone in Marfa, Texas; and

(B) the function of the Blackwell School within a segregated system of education in Texas and the United States from the period of 1885 through 1965.

(2) DETERMINATION BY SECRETARY.—The National Historic Site shall not be established until the date on which the Secretary determines that—

(A) a written agreement has been entered into by the Secretary with the Marfa Unified School District providing that the Blackwell School shall be donated to the United States or co-managed with the Secretary for inclusion in a national historic site to be managed consistently with the purposes of a national historic site; and

(B) a sufficient quantity of land or an interest in land within the boundaries of the National Historic Site has been acquired to constitute a manageable unit.

(b) MAP.—

(1) BOUNDARIES.—The boundaries of the National Historic Site shall be the boundaries generally depicted on the map.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(c) ACQUISITION OF AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may only acquire any land or interest in land located within the boundary of the National Historic Site by—

(1) donation;

(2) purchase with donated funds; or

(3) exchange.

(d) ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer the National Historic Site in accordance with—

(A) this Act; and

(B) the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System.

(2) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available to the Secretary to prepare a general management plan for the National Historic Site, the Secretary shall prepare a general management plan for the National Historic Site in accordance with section 100502 of title 54, United States Code.

(B) SUBMISSION.—On completion of the general management plan under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives the general management plan prepared under that subparagraph.

(e) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary shall enter into cooperative agreements with the Blackwell School Alliance and other local, regional, State, academic, and nonprofit partners for interpretive and educational programming, technical assistance, and rehabilitation relating to the National Historic Site.

(f) WRITTEN CONSENT OF OWNER.—No private property or non-Federal public property shall be included within the boundaries of the National Historic Site or managed as part of the National Historic Site without the written consent of the owner of the property.

Ms. HIRONO. I yield the floor.

H.R. 7691

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, every day, brave Ukrainian soldiers are preventing Putin from posing a bigger threat to the region and the West by stopping his unquenchable thirst for power. Supporting this effort is in our national security interests, and we can do it without putting Americans in harm's way.

While we must tackle challenges at home, we can't ignore threats abroad. Make no mistake: Putin is a threat.

Just as this administration's failure to secure the southern border has encouraged more illegal immigration, failing to support Ukraine's sovereignty will only encourage further aggression by Russia and embolden others, like China.

I wish President Biden had done more sooner to put Ukraine in a position to repel the Russian invasion we all knew was coming. I think there were some in his administration who were advising President Biden to be cautious in our support to Ukraine lest we provoke Putin into doing what President Biden was publicly warning he was about to do. In retrospect, that looks foolish. That said, our support to Ukraine to date has been and continues to be a worthwhile investment in our security.

On the other hand, President Biden should be as concerned about breaches of our U.S. border as he is about Ukraine's border. Both are national security and humanitarian crises and neither should be ignored. My colleagues and I will continue doing our part, including by demanding a vote to uphold title 42.

When it comes to a murdering thug like Putin, history shows us that waiting too long to act can have devastating consequences. That is why we must continue sending humanitarian and military aid to Ukraine while also

fortifying our military. A Ukrainian victory will put Russia in its place and make other countries, namely China, think twice before taking aggressive military actions of their own. In these moments, it is our responsibility to support peace and preserve a stable world for future generations.

The bill the Senate will soon vote on is at least as much an American national security bill as it is support for Ukraine's heroic fight for survival. In fact, roughly 25 percent of the funds in this bill are allocated to replenish U.S. weapons stockpiles. This isn't money for weapons for Ukraine, but to ensure that, even after all the military aid we have provided to Ukraine, we have sufficient stockpiles to ensure our national security in case of another contingency. In fact, a combined total of roughly 40 percent of the funds in this bill will go to fortify our military, both at home and in Europe. Roughly 50 percent of the funds in this bill will go to supplying specific equipment needed by Ukraine's military, as well as the militaries of our NATO frontline allies, and to meet the humanitarian needs of Ukrainians suffering from Russian attacks.

I have heard from hundreds of Iowans whose hearts go out to the people of Ukraine after seeing countless reports of Russian brutality. Because of our own history, Americans naturally sympathize with an underdog seeking freedom and independence in the face of an imperialist tyrant. But, as I have said, this bill is not primarily about sympathy for Ukraine, as natural as that is.

This bill is about American national security. By fighting and dying to defend their land, Ukrainians are doing us a favor. Putin is a threat. If he is stopped in Ukraine, it will save greater expense in American taxpayer money, not to mention the potential spilling of American blood. This bill is not cheap, but compared to the size of our economy, our investment in Ukrainian victory is still smaller percentagewise than that of several Eastern Flank NATO allies, who know full well that any weapons transferred to Ukraine now are ones our own troops won't have to use to defend NATO territory in the future. This is a good investment in our future security.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Calendar No. 368, H.R. 7691, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance for the situation in Ukraine for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Patrick J. Leahy, Richard Blumenthal, Mazie Hirono, Christopher Murphy, Tina Smith, Robert Menendez, Christopher A. Coons, Michael F. Bennet, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin, Elizabeth Warren, Edward J. Markey, Tim Kaine, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Sheldon Whitehouse.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on H.R. 7691, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance for the situation in Ukraine for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 86, nays 11, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 190 Leg.]

YEAS—86

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Barrasso	Heinrich	Risch
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Romney
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rounds
Blunt	Hoeven	Rubio
Booker	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Burr	Inhofe	Sasse
Cantwell	Johnson	Schatz
Capito	Kaine	Schumer
Cardin	Kelly	Scott (FL)
Carper	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Casey	King	Shaheen
Cassidy	Klobuchar	Shelby
Collins	Lankford	Sinema
Coons	Leahy	Smith
Cornyn	Lujan	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Sullivan
Cotton	Markey	Tester
Cramer	McConnell	Thune
Cruz	Menendez	Tillis
Daines	Merkley	Toomey
Duckworth	Moran	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Warnock
Ernst	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Fischer	Ossoff	Wicker
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Graham	Peters	Young
Grassley	Portman	

NAYS—11

Blackburn	Hagerty	Marshall
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Braun	Lee	Tuberville
Crapo	Lummis	

NOT VOTING—3

Brown	Rosen	Van Hollen
-------	-------	------------

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). On this vote, the yeas are 86, the nays are 11.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Cloture having been invoked, the motions to commit and the amendments pending thereto fall, and under the previous order the pending amendments are withdrawn.

The clerk will read the title of the bill for the third time.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

VOTE ON H.R. 7691

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. HEINRICH. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 86, nays 11, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 191 Leg.]

YEAS—86

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Barrasso	Heinrich	Risch
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Romney
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rounds
Blunt	Hoeven	Rubio
Booker	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Burr	Inhofe	Sasse
Cantwell	Johnson	Schatz
Capito	Kaine	Schumer
Cardin	Kelly	Scott (FL)
Carper	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Casey	King	Shaheen
Cassidy	Klobuchar	Shelby
Collins	Lankford	Sinema
Coons	Leahy	Smith
Cornyn	Lujan	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Sullivan
Cotton	Markey	Tester
Cramer	McConnell	Thune
Cruz	Menendez	Tillis
Daines	Merkley	Toomey
Duckworth	Moran	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Warnock
Ernst	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Fischer	Ossoff	Wicker
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Graham	Peters	Young
Grassley	Portman	

NAYS—11

Blackburn	Hagerty	Marshall
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Braun	Lee	Tuberville
Crapo	Lummis	

NOT VOTING—3

Brown	Rosen	Van Hollen
-------	-------	------------

The bill (H.R. 7691) was passed.

SMALL BUSINESS COVID RELIEF ACT OF 2022—MOTION TO PROCEED—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 4008, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 344, S. 4008, a bill to provide COVID relief for restaurants, gyms, minor league sports teams, border businesses, live venue service providers, exclave businesses, and Providers of transportation services.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 4046

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, I rise here today to talk about the IRS. It is not going to take long because it is so easy to understand.

The IRS has a bad track record. They often fail to be good stewards of taxpayer money and protect highly sensitive information. Yet the President and congressional Democrats want to throw another \$80 billion into the IRS with no real return on investment, the way I can see it.

They have a history of weaponizing against conservative organizations and for hassling hard-working taxpayers and small business owners with audits. If you look at it statistically, they are hitting small businesses by number a lot harder than some of the fat-cat tax cheats. It is unacceptable to treat American taxpayers in this way.

The IRS does not need more power; it needs to—we need to be assured that it is going to do a better job at what it is supposed to do. Solution? Last month, I introduced a bill with a number of IRS reforms to hold the Agency accountable and protect taxpayers. The Simplify, Don't Amplify the IRS Act would stop the Biden administration from growing the power of the IRS. The bill would stop attempts to target Americans and small businesses by snooping into their bank accounts, credit union accounts, Venmo, PayPal, and Cash App. It would repeal the Democratic ban on cutting State taxes. It would hold IRS employees accountable when they release private taxpayer information and ensure that the IRS spends time not doing its union activity when it should be helping Americans when they have an issue, especially during tax filing season.

The taxpayer deserves the best possible service we can provide. We can debate how much money the IRS needs. It needs to do its job right first before we give it more money. The solution is the Don't Amplify the IRS Act.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 4046 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. WYDEN. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, it is not an atomic secret around here that I very much enjoy working with our colleague from Indiana. We talk often about issues like healthcare and economic priorities. I will just say that I wish we agreed on this one as well.

Colleagues, the net effect of this proposal is to hobble the IRS and let the wealthiest in America get out of paying what they owe. And there is a lot to discuss here. Like Senator BRAUN, I am going to keep this short.

First, I think it is important to get at this back-and-forth between the political parties. I see the Presiding Officer in the chair, and he, too, has been interested in tax reform.

Look, I would be the first to say that the tax system in many respects is just broken, just a mess. The debate with respect to the role of the parties needs to start with what happened in 2017.

In 2017, we had the President's tax reform proposal, President Trump's proposal, comprehensive proposal, all kinds of changes. If Senate Republicans had wanted to fix the IRS and do what our colleague from Indiana is talking about and simplify the system, they could have done that in the 2017 tax law. It was a big opportunity with everything in front of us.

I and others had worked on a bipartisan bill. Our former colleague Senator Gregg, our former colleague Senator Coats—he and I—the two of them—we had bipartisan bills. Part of it was simplifying the system, and Republicans in 2017 passed on that. They made the Tax Code even more complicated. That point No. 1.

Point No. 2 is the Agency is struggling with basic services because, year after year, there have been Republican budget cuts that have decimated the ability of the Agency to meet people's needs. Now Republicans are the guy in the hot dog suit, swearing up and down that they are trying to find the guy who did this.

I am just going to talk for a moment about how this happened because when the IRS struggles to enforce tax laws, wealthy tax cheats are able to skip out on paying what they owe, and they want to keep it that way.

That was not always the case. Ronald Reagan—nobody's idea of somebody who worshipped Big Government—increased the number of employees at the IRS over his 8 years in office. There used to be bipartisan agreement on these kinds of big issues, just like I pursued with Senator Gregg, a former colleague, and Senator Coats. There used to be bipartisan agreement that the IRS was able to do its job if there was basic tax fairness, making sure that everybody paid their fair share. So much for those days. Now what we have are wall-to-wall attacks from our colleagues on the other side and budget cuts that hurt middle-class taxpayers and boost wealthy tax cheats.

I will close with just a couple of specifics. If you want more secrecy and more dark money influencing our political system—and I have had more than a thousand open-to-everybody townhall meetings at home. There are no rallies for more dark money and more secrecy in the political system, but, regrettably, that is exactly what you bet with the proposal from our colleagues on the other side.

In 2018, on the same day that the Justice Department unveiled charges against a Russian spy who was working to influence our elections, the Trump administration out of nowhere basically blindsided the public by opening the floodgates to foreign money and special interest dollars in our elections. The rule makes it even easier for powerful people to try to hot-wire our

elections. As it stands today, that rule can be overturned. Regrettably, this proposal locks it in place with black letter law.

We are coming up on the election season, of course. My home State just had primaries. Families from sea to shining sea get bombarded by political ads and mailers. When there is more dark money in politics, voters are thrown into the shadows. It is even harder for them to figure out who is trying to influence their vote. Is this ad paid for by a polluting corporation? Is it paid for by a foreign power who is looking to undermine our security? Is it paid for by a wealthy tax cheat who has absolutely no interest in working people in America?

Across the street, there are six Republicans on the Supreme Court who seem to look at every opportunity and embrace it to have more dark money make its ways into the nooks and crannies of our political system. For example, just a few days ago, the Court ruled on a campaign finance case brought by our colleague from Texas, Senator CRUZ. The six Republican Justices sided with the Republican Senator—a huge win for the most powerful political donors who, as far as I can tell, are going to be able to funnel more shady payoffs directly into the bank accounts of more wealthy incumbent Republicans.

Colleagues, the Congress does not have to go along with what I think is just a pillaging of core democratic principles. There ought to be less money, less secrecy in our elections, not more. For these reasons, I object.

I want to tell my colleague from Indiana that I look forward to getting back to working with him on topics where we have broad agreement.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, I enjoy working with my colleague because healthcare, in my opinion, is one of the biggest issues that beset the country. He has pledged to look to maybe try to reform it before we get more government involved with it.

Hot off the press: \$19 billion in improper earned income tax credits from the IRS. Let's fix the place before we give it more money.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, those Senators who voted to gift \$40 billion to Ukraine argue that it is in our national security interest. I wonder if Americans across our country would agree if they had been shown the cost, if they had been asked to pay for it. If the supporters of foreign aid for Ukraine had been honest with Americans, they could have instituted a Ukraine war tax. I am sure it would have been quite popular because, by my calculation, each income tax payer in our country would need to pay \$500 to support this

\$40 billion, which by some accounts is a downpayment and will need to be replenished in about 4 months. So a \$500 tax to every American income tax payer would pay for this. But that is not the way things are done in Washington. What we do is say: Put it on my tab. We don't want to be honest. We don't want to be transparent with the taxpayer. We just add it to the debt.

We could have also taken the \$40 billion from elsewhere in the budget. We could have said: Well, we spent \$770 billion on our military, and that \$770 billion is more than the next eight countries combined. We could have taken it out of our military budget. If it is in our national security interests, perhaps it could be a military expenditure.

But, no, we don't want to tax the people. We don't want them to know there is a payment or punishment for this. We don't want to take it from somewhere else where somebody else is getting rich off of this money. No, what we do is simply borrow it. "Put it on my tab" is what Congress says, so, yes, that is what will happen.

When Americans go to the grocery store, they will pay, yet again, higher prices. When Americans go to the gas pump, they will spend even more for their gas because there is no free lunch. Forty billion cannot be created out of thin air, although it sort of is by the Fed. In being creative and increasing the demand, it causes inflation. Debt leads to inflation.

Now, when the ink is not even dry on the money that we are shoveling out the door for Ukraine, the Democrats are back. It hasn't yet been an hour. We are still in the same hour that \$40 billion was given away to a foreign country.

Now that the \$40 billion is gone, they are somewhere, somewhere busily with a printing press printing that money up, the ink is not yet dry, now they want \$48 billion more for COVID bailouts.

Well, perhaps there was another alternative. Perhaps, instead of locking down the economy—which studies now show did not mitigate the virus, did not change the trajectory of the virus—perhaps instead of locking the economy down and ruining businesses, we could have not locked the economy down. That was an alternative and one—if this ever happens again, we should learn a lesson: The lockdowns did not change the trajectory of the virus; they bankrupted folks. But it is not the answer.

The answer isn't to lock down the economy again and just bail people out because, guess what, almost \$6 trillion was spent bailing out the economy. We didn't have it. We didn't have a rainy day fund. You can't go to the Federal Reserve and open a big safe door and say, ah, there is the money, we will give it to people that we ruined by shutting the economy down.

There is no money. We are already a trillion dollars in the hole, if you just look at our ordinary expenses—Medi-

care, Medicaid, Social Security, the military, food stamps, a few more social programs—that is the budget. That is a trillion dollars short. What comes in, what goes out, we are a trillion dollars short, and in the last 2 years we borrowed \$6 trillion more. Is it any wonder we have inflation?

But the other side is not even saying they understand where inflation comes from. They think it is greed. I wouldn't accept that from a third grade class. It is moronic. What do they suppose? Everyone all got together, and the people that control the gas price became greedy last month. Well, that is absurd on the face of it. Greed has nothing to do with this. People are always self-interested. Inflation comes from an expansion of the money supply. M2 is a broad measure of the money supply. The last 3 years, the M2 has been expanding at a 15 percent annual clip. You cannot expand the money supply 15 percent and not get inflation.

In January of last year, the M2 was expanding at an annualized rate of 27 percent. Why? Because we don't have money to pay for all the stuff we give to people. It is dishonest; it is deceitful. We give people stuff and say, here's free stuff. You don't have to work anymore; we are closing your business down. But here is some money. But we don't have it, so we are going to print it up or borrow it.

That is what went on. Over the last 2 years, Congress went on a spending spree. More than \$6 trillion was given away. What my colleagues may be shocked to learn is it is never really free. There is no such thing as a free lunch. In fact, lunch actually costs a lot more than it did before.

Congress started spending all of this free money, but while the \$30 trillion national debt continues to climb, Congress continues to spend. You would think they would be chastened. We have nearly double digit inflation out there. You think they would be saying, oh, my goodness, we have to quit digging the hole deeper. No, instead we sent 40 billion out before lunch; they want to send 48 billion more after lunch.

Last month, they sent over a \$100 billion in subsidies out. They doubled the size of one of the most wasteful government organizations we have: the National Science Foundation.

So, no, they are not chastened. Inflation is caused by borrowing and debt and the Fed monetizing it. So what are they doing in the last 2 months? They are making it worse. After 2 years of running up the taxpayers' credit card by 6 trillion, you would think they would be beginning to grasp the problem. Small businesses, hard-working Americans simply can't spend any more of the money we don't have. We can't just keep giving away money. Maybe we shouldn't be surprised that Democrats have now come to the realization or have not come to the realization that their authoritarian lockdowns and endless spending caused

the highest inflation in 41 years. Yet in today's exercise, Democrats want to spend another \$48 billion.

Where is the emergency? The lockdowns have mostly been ended over the last year, and yet there is this all, hurry up we must print up more money. The \$40 billion we gave to Ukraine, the ink is not even dry, but we have to shovel out another 48 billion. Where is the emergency?

There will be 40 billion in this for restaurants. New grants will go to yachts, yacht clubs, limousine businesses, racket clubs, and luxury gyms, and minor league sports. Oh boy, we have an emergency that we need to get the minor league sports involved with the bailout, while Americans across the country are getting poorer.

Americans can't afford to put the gas in their car to go on vacation. Americans are losing income every day. The average American family is paying \$100 more every week, \$100 more; \$5,200 a year is being lost to inflation for the average American family. What are we doing to protect them?

I have great sympathy for businesses that were forced to shut down during the pandemic. The lockdowns should never have happened. And we have no evidence that the COVID lockdowns and restrictions altered the trajectory of the virus or saved one life. Petty tyrants have shut down businesses not based on science but based on a perverted political science.

No government check, no passing out of a bailout can beat the operating of the market. The marketplace is the only thing that created the great wealth of our country and the only thing that can continue to help us. Yet the other side insisted on economic shutdowns, only to prop up the market with the taxpayers' wallet and borrowed money.

Democrats need to wake up and realize that dumping more money in the economy is simply pouring \$5-a-gallon gas on an already out-of-control fire. America can be a rising Nation again if we let it. The people have had enough with mandates and lockdowns. It is time to end the bailouts and, once again, let the free market reign again.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following Senators be permitted to complete their remarks prior to the scheduled votes: Senators LEE, MURRAY, CARDIN, and SCHUMER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, in recent weeks, American moms and dads have been scouring supermarkets and drugstores looking for baby formula. Parents are desperate to feed their infants and repeatedly check brick-and-mortar and online stores, ask family and friends to purchase and ship formula wherever they might be, purchase

mother's milk online, and even hospitalize their babies in some instances because they can't find formula. The situation is worse still for those parents who need specialty formula for babies with medically-required diets.

What parents experience today is rightly called the formula crisis. In one of the most stressful times of life, the parents of newborns are left in an unimaginable position. My heart breaks for those infants and for their parents. The sound of a baby's cry carries a different weight in times like these.

Families in my own State feel this crisis quite acutely. Utah has the largest families, the most children per capita, and the highest birthrate of any State in the Union. Utah's families do, indeed, feel this acutely. I have read and I have heard so many heart-wrenching stories from Utah families. Their searches have expanded from the local grocery store to stores across town to the internet and, finally, to total desperation, as formula has become out of stock everywhere within reach.

Unfortunately, when the White House was asked recently what parents should do, the White House said:

Ask your pediatrician, who may have formula samples, for possible alternatives.

What an embarrassing stopgap measure.

Now, look, not every crisis is one that, like this one, is a government's own creation. Not every crisis is one that, like this one, could, therefore, be resolved with fairly simple action. It is inexcusable that their response was to just ask your pediatrician because your pediatrician might have samples on hand.

Then there are some in Congress who simply want to throw money at the problem without addressing the weaknesses in this critical supply chain or without removing the redtape that caused this problem to begin with and is now standing in the way of parents. American babies deserve better.

Today, the Senate can help American families by immediately passing my bill called the FORMULA Act. This bill responds to the crisis in three simple ways that will help solve the formula crisis and feed American babies.

First, my bill would suspend tariff collection and quantity on formula imports. Formula that we can bring in from abroad is taxed at a rate of 17.5 percent upon entering the United States. We can help ease the skyrocketing prices and encourage companies to import as much baby formula as possible simply by suspending this collection of tariffs.

Second, my bill would temporarily allow formula imports from a number of safe countries like those in Europe from which we are comfortable importing pharmaceutical products. This will allow us to access plentiful and safe formula supplies coming from abroad and meet the needs that we have today.

Finally, my bill would allow WIC recipients to buy imported brands of for-

mula with WIC vouchers. Under the current system, most WIC parents can buy only a specific brand, the brand listed on the voucher label, which, in many circumstances, might be unavailable.

My bill will allow these parents to buy from available stock and feed their children.

Keeping American infants fed should be one of the least controversial proposals imaginable. American babies are going hungry, and the Federal Government is standing in the way.

My FORMULA Act will help solve the formula crisis and make sure American babies do not go unfed.

I am pleased to be joined in this effort by Senators GRASSLEY, DAINES, CASSIDY, and WICKER. This bill has the support of a number of outside groups and countless Americans. If we can help solve this crisis today, we can make sure American babies' cries do not go unanswered. We must pass the FORMULA Act.

To that end, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 4261, which is at the desk; I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object.

As a mom and grandmother, I share my colleague's deep concern about the infant formula shortage; but I am concerned with the Senator's proposal to address it, and so I will be offering the Senate an alternative here in just a moment that addresses those concerns while building on common ground and the need to end this shortage.

So I object to the Senator's proposal and seek recognition to offer my proposal.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, as a mom and grandmother, I share my colleague's concern about the infant formula shortage, and I have been pressing the FDA and infant formula manufacturers for answers and actions on this going back to when the Abbott recall was first announced back in February. And I am glad the Biden administration is taking some action to address this crisis: FDA's announcement earlier this week to make it easier to import baby formula during this crisis and President Biden's announcement yesterday that he will use the Defense Production Act to bring more formula to market, because I want to see formula back on the shelves as soon as possible.

But I also want parents to know the formula that they are giving their child is safe, which is why I have serious concerns about the broad waivers of FDA authority in the bill that was

just offered. For example, waiving the nutrient requirements for infant formula.

FDA actually requires infant formula to include 30 essential nutrients—too much or too little of those nutrients can put the health of our most vulnerable at risk—or labeling requirements for directions on preparation and use, which are really important to keep babies safe.

I want us to quickly find common ground on steps to end this shortage safely, give parents the formula they need, and make sure this situation never happens again.

I am sure the Senator from Utah wants that too. I really do think we can get this done. And that is why I would like to offer to pass another bill I have right now, which ensures FDA can take the steps to increase supply without compromising standards and which, similar to Senator LEE's bill, would waive tariffs on importing baby formula during this crisis.

And I do want to continue working on other bipartisan steps here. I know that Senator STABENOW and Senator BOOZMAN are working on legislation at this very moment to make adjustments to the WIC program, similar to another part of Senator LEE's effort that I think is also crucial.

So while I have concerns with how some of the proposals to waive FDA authority will make it harder for FDA to keep babies safe, I think there is a bipartisan path forward for some of these ideas, and I urge Senator LEE to work with me and our colleagues to find that.

Mr. President, right now, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of my bill, which is at the desk, to temporarily allow the importation of infant formula free of duty and free of quantitative limitation and to require the Food and Drug Administration to issue guidance related to increasing the supply of infant formula. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I appreciate the remarks and the shared enthusiasm that my friend and colleague, the distinguished Senator from Washington, has expressed, a shared vision that we have for wanting to protect American babies.

I am also disappointed that she has objected to a reform that would put directly needed infant formula onto shelves and into the hands of millions of Americans in need.

This is not, of course, the time for political wins; it is a time for solutions. And it can't be ignored that Big Government has, in fact, caused the shortage and the crisis involving baby formula.

If we walk away from this current crisis and we somehow try to attribute its causes simply to inflation and supply chain disruptions, we will have missed out on a bigger picture of involving how government regulations have contributed to the outcome.

If there were not serious prohibitions and restrictions on trade, we would have a far larger baby formula import market. But because the FDA and other health regulators arbitrarily decided that other countries' standards for mixtures were not suitable for American infants, foreign products have been excluded from our grocery shelves at a time when we need them the very most.

Now, make no mistake—the Abbott recall was not the cause of this shortage but, rather, the culminating event of a long, brewing storm.

Unless we reshape our regulatory environment, we will continue to lack the formula that parents need to feed their children.

The counteroffer that my colleague has presented today does three things. First, it fails to actually put formula into the hands of Americans. Second, it empowers the very actors that have created this shortage through overregulation. And, lastly, it fails to make any reforms to the WIC program.

This proposal by my colleague misses the mark, and on that basis, I object and would like to offer a counter proposal.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, and so although I object, as I stated previously, this is not the time for political wins; it is the time for solutions. So I would like to present a counteroffer to my colleague's proposal. I believe an agreement on meaningful solutions can and should be reached.

This bill would incorporate provisions passed by the House yesterday, enabling WIC recipients to buy formula by granting the Secretary of Agriculture the permanent flexibility to waive certain WIC requirements.

Additionally, this bill would incorporate my colleague's waiver on the tariffs on infant formula and import quantity restrictions.

Further, it would waive the excessive regulations on infant formula that have made it impossible for safe formula to be available to American families in need.

So to that end, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 4262, which is at the desk. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mrs. MURRAY. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, and I really

do appreciate the Senator's efforts to address some of the concerns I have here, but the bill that he is offering will still ultimately exempt formula from FDA standards that are really critical for safety. We owe it to parents to know that when they purchase formula, it is safe.

So I would like to keep working with Senator LEE and our colleagues to make progress on this as soon as possible. I hope we can continue to do that; but at this point, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, it is important to note here that nothing in my proposal would put formula on the shelves that is not safe.

By opening up some of the import restrictions and the regulatory restrictions, it adheres still to the same safety standards that we rely on. It does allow for the importation of some product from other countries—other countries that we have deemed sufficiently safe that we allow their imports in the pharmaceutical arena. There is no reason we can't do that here.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

S. 4008

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, shortly we are going to be voting on a motion to proceed to S. 4008. This is the bill that would replenish the restaurant revitalization fund for the 170,000 restaurants that were shut out of getting funds when the program was first enacted. A hundred thousand got the relief; 170,000 were shut out through no fault of their own.

So this is a matter of basic fairness. It is also a matter of need. These restaurants—many of which are ready to go out of business—they need the money to pay off their debts that they took out to stay open, and they are competing with restaurants next door that have gotten that relief, and they can't compete on a level playing field.

This has been a bipartisan bill from the beginning. We started with this last August, a bipartisan group working on it. We have placed guardrails on this bill. There is no double-dipping. You can't have both. The PPP money has to be subtracted. It has to be used for permitted uses such as paying down your debt or construction of outdoor seating or protective equipment. There is pro rata reduction if there are not enough funds that are appropriated so we don't have to come back again.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD letters of support from the National Restaurant Association, Distilled Spirits Council, American Bus Association, National School Transportation Association, Minor League Teams and Community Gym Coalition. These are groups that we have added that have similar circumstances as the restaurants.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION,

May 18, 2022.

DEAR SENATORS CARDIN AND WICKER: The Senate is expected to consider legislation that would finally replenish the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF), a critical program for a sector still struggling with pandemic-related debts and losses. On behalf of the restaurants and the communities we support nationwide, we urge your full support.

The RRF has been a lifeline for restaurants that received grants last year. Initially funded at \$28 billion, the RRF worked as planned, helping restaurants stay in business and serve their communities. In fact, 92% of RRF recipients said the grant helped them pay expenses or debt that had accumulated since the beginning of the pandemic, according to National Restaurant Association research.

As you are aware, the RRF's initial funding of \$28 billion was quickly depleted, leaving 177,000 restaurants that were promised funds with nothing. While the restaurant industry appreciates Congress' help in establishing the program, the outcome unfairly pitted restaurants against each other in a battle where Congress ultimately chose the winners and losers.

The Senate has before it an opportunity to right this wrong by passing S. 4008—the Small Business COVID-19 Relief Act of 2022 to replenish the RRF and provide fairness and equity to restaurants that have been desperately waiting for help. Our research shows that additional round of RRF grants would be just as effective as the first. Nearly 50% of restaurant operators that did not receive RRF grants feel it's unlikely that they will stay in business, and 94% said a future grant would enable them to retain or hire back employees.

Two years into the pandemic, these 177,000 restaurants continue to struggle to survive as inflation, increased food costs, a labor shortage, and supply chain disruptions continue to place greater strains on them than ever before. Unlike the nation's overall economy, which is showing signs of improvement, the restaurant industry is still down nearly 800,000 jobs and \$300 billion in lost sales.

The RRF was born out of an emergency and helped restaurants endure the disaster brought on by government ordered shutdowns and capacity restrictions. Replenishing the RRF should still be considered an emergency, no different than a hurricane, tornado, or wildfires.

On behalf of restaurants across the country, we strongly support S. 4008—the Small Business COVID-19 Relief Act of 2022 and thank you for your tireless leadership to shepherd this critical legislation through the Senate so that restaurants can get back to serving their local communities.

Sincerely,

SEAN KENNEDY,

Executive Vice President, Public Affairs,

National Restaurant Association.

Alabama Restaurant & Hospitality Association; Alaska Cabaret, Hotel, Restaurant & Retailers Association; Arizona Restaurant Association; Arkansas Hospitality Association; California Restaurant Association; Colorado Restaurant Association; Connecticut Restaurant Association; Delaware Restaurant Association; Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington; Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association; Georgia Restaurant Association; Hawaii Restaurant Association; Idaho Lodging & Restaurant Association; Illinois Restaurant Association; Indiana Restaurant & Lodging Association; Iowa Restaurant Association; Kansas Restaurant & Hospitality Association; Kentucky Restaurant Association; Louisiana Restaurant Association; Hospitality Maine; Restaurant Association of Maryland; Massachusetts Restaurant Association; Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association; Hospitality

Minnesota; Mississippi Hospitality & Restaurant Association; Missouri Restaurant Association; Montana Restaurant Association; Nebraska Hospitality Association; Nevada Restaurant Association.

New Hampshire Lodging & Restaurant Association; New Jersey Restaurant & Hospitality Association; New Mexico Restaurant Association; New York State Restaurant Association; North Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association; North Dakota Hospitality Association; Ohio Restaurant Association; Oklahoma Restaurant Association; Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association; Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association; Puerto Rico Restaurant Association; Rhode Island Hospitality Association; South Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association; South Dakota Retailers Association; Hospitality Tennessee; Texas Restaurant Association; Utah Restaurant Association; Vermont Chamber of Commerce; Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association; Washington Hospitality Association; West Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association; Wisconsin Restaurant Association; Wyoming Hospitality & Travel Coalition.

DISTILLED SPIRITS COUNCIL
OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 18, 2022.

Subject: Support the Small Business COVID Relief Act (S. 4008) on the Floor This Week.

DEAR SENATORS: When the Small Business COVID Relief Act of 2022 (S. 4008), comes to the floor this week, we respectfully urge support for this important piece of COVID-19 economic relief legislation.

Among other things, this legislation would replenish the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) and provide critical funding to allow the U.S. Small Business Administration to process the applications of eligible entities that previously applied to the program.

Demand for the Restaurant Revitalization Fund far exceeded the initial tranche of funding: More than 278,000 applications were submitted to the program, but the U.S. Small Business Administration was only able to fund approximately 101,000. Hospitality industry businesses like restaurants, bars, and distilleries that depend on in-person visitors face a long, uneven recovery from the pandemic and these funds are critical to businesses across the country. According to research by the National Restaurant Association, the RRF saved more than 900,000 jobs at restaurants that received grants. Their estimates indicate that fully funding the RRF will save more than 1.6 million restaurant jobs still on the line.

Please support the recovery of the hospitality industry by supporting additional funds for the RRF and voting in favor of the Small Business Covid Relief Act, S. 4008. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

KELLY POULSEN,
Vice President, Federal Government Relations.

JESSICA BRADY,
Senior Director, Federal Government Relations.

AMERICAN BUS ASSOCIATION.

The American Bus Association—the industry leader advancing North American motorcoach travel and tourism—released a statement of support today of the Senate Small Business Committee's legislation to provide COVID relief to restaurants and other small businesses.

This vital legislation will help a still struggling motorcoach industry, by provide an additional \$2 billion for grant funding to the Coronavirus Economic Relief for Transportation Services (CERTS) program for motorcoaches, school buses and passenger vessels. In addition, this legislation would treat the CERTS grants like all other pandemic aid programs by exempting the grants from treatment as income.

"According to independent research, the motorcoach industry recorded an 82.6 percent loss of business in 2020, a 60 percent loss in 2021 and continues to operate well below pre-COVID levels because of the pandemic," said Peter Pantuso, ABA President & CEO. "While we saw limited recovery over the past couple of years, the Delta and Omicron variants significantly slowed down recovery. We are not like to see full recovery until at least 2023 or 2024."

"This industry is not asking for a government handout," said Pantuso. "But we need a bridge to help our industry survive the pandemic. Nearly half of the motorcoach companies have closed over the last two years, mostly small family and minority businesses, and America can't afford for us to lose more."

The American Bus Association thanks Senator Cardin (D-MD) and Senator Wicker (R-MS) for their hard work in crafting this important legislation and for their commitment to help the nation's small businesses recover from this pandemic. The American Bus Association urges all Senators to support the Cardin-Wicker proposal when it comes up for a vote as an amendment to the COVID Health Supplemental.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN BUS ASSOCIATION

The American Bus Association (ABA) is the trade organization of the intercity bus industry, with more than 1,000 motorcoach and tour company members in the United States and Canada. Its members operate charter, tour, regular route, airport express, special operations, and contract services. Another 2,800 members are travel and tourism organizations and suppliers of bus products and services who work in partnership with the North American motorcoach industry.

NATIONAL SCHOOL
TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION,
April 1, 2022.

STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION IN SUPPORT OF THE CARDIN-WICKER AMENDMENT TO THE COVID HEALTH SUPPLEMENTAL

The National School Transportation Association (NSTA) supports the Cardin-Wicker planned amendment to the Covid Health Supplemental to provide an additional \$2 billion to the CERTS relief program, as well as make CERTS grants tax-exempt.

NSTA is the leading resource for school bus transportation solutions and the voice for private contractors for over 55 years. We are a membership organization for school bus contract-operators engaged primarily in transporting students to and from school and school-related activities. Members range from small family businesses serving one school district, to large corporations operating tens of thousands of buses across multiple states. Regardless of size, our operators are staunchly committed to the safe and efficient transportation of our nation's schoolchildren. Private school bus contractors account for 38 percent of the nation's pupil transportation services and employ more than 250,000 individuals as bus drivers, mechanics, maintenance workers, dispatch, and office workers.

Daily, almost 26 million K-12 students are transported by an estimated 480,000 yellow

school buses. Every day, the lives of these children are entrusted to certified school transportation professionals, who have received special training and have the experience to ensure the safe transport of students. School buses remain the safest way to transport a child to-and-from school, and school-related activities, as they are the most regulated form of transportation. Students are significantly safer riding to and from school in a school bus than walking, riding bikes, or riding/driving in their family car. The number of fatalities of school age children traveling to and from school, per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT), is 70 times higher in passenger vehicles than in school buses.

School bus companies suffered tremendous losses during the pandemic as schools closed and many districts refused to pay school bus contractors. NSTA estimates that 60 percent of school districts did not pay contractors during school closures, despite expressing the desire to have the contractor keep their valued employees and be ready to restart transportation on a moment's notice. The CERTS program was crucial to help school bus contractors stay viable and continue to employ our valued employees, however, the CERTS program was initially appropriated at \$2 billion. The Department of Treasury received applications from companies totaling over \$8 billion in revenue losses from 2019-2020. This figure does not include additional revenue losses our companies incurred in 2021 as the pandemic still kept many schools shut down for much of last year as well.

The amendment also includes a provision to provide tax exemption for CERTS relief grants, consistent with other Covid relief programs, such as the Paycheck Protection Program, restaurant and venue relief programs. While we deeply appreciate the CERTS grant funds designed as emergency relief due to the devastating impacts of the pandemic on our businesses, CERTS funds should be treated the same as other covid relief when it comes to taxes.

NSTA strongly supports the amendment to provide critical additional funds and tax relief to help school bus companies continue to recover, so that we can provide safe and efficient school bus transportation to the nation's schoolchildren.

APRIL 5, 2022.

DEAR MAJORITY LEADER SCHUMER, MINORITY LEADER MCCONNELL, SPEAKER PELOSI, AND MINORITY LEADER MCCARTHY: On behalf of professional minor league sports teams across the country, we are writing in support of the amendment to the COVID-19 supplemental bill offered by Senators Ben Cardin and Roger Wicker to provide much-needed relief for our teams. Teams in leagues across the spectrum of sports have lost tens of millions of dollars since the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and action is desperately needed now to protect these small businesses and safeguard their vital economic contributions to communities across the nation.

The first year of the pandemic was particularly devastating for professional minor league sports teams, with many losing more than 90 percent of their revenue during this first year alone as a result of mandated closures. These financial losses were compounded by challenges in year two including limited attendance, canceled games, and increased costs as teams worked to operate safely during the pandemic. As we enter year three of the pandemic, teams continue to grapple with decreased consumer confidence as a result of the COVID-19 variants, which is impacting ticket sales for the upcoming minor league baseball season and causing postponements and cancellations for the 2021-2022 minor league hockey season. So far this

season, approximately 100 games have been postponed or canceled across the professional minor hockey leagues.

Our teams were excluded from previous relief packages enacted by Congress and therefore did not receive the help that was made available to other small businesses in the live entertainment industry. Unfortunately, our situation is only worsening as a result of the Omicron variant. While we had hoped to be past the pandemic at this point, persisting variants have demonstrated that the pandemic is not yet over.

Research generally suggests that the presence of minor league sports teams is associated with an increase in per capita incomes, which often may stem from teams generating new spending by out-of-area visitors and encouraging residents to spend inside the local economy. Minor league sports franchises are pillars of the community and assets that our cities and industries need, not only for the economic impact they make on their communities and for the significant charitable efforts made in their markets, but also for their ability to draw in a strong workforce of individuals who call their cities home, and these small businesses continue to struggle to stay afloat in the absence of relief from Congress.

Our teams have been left behind and desperately need help now. We ask that you support the Cardin-Wicker amendment to provide critical relief for professional minor league sports teams in the COVID-19 supplemental. We appreciate your consideration of this request and your continued support of our teams.

Sincerely,

Jason Freier, Executive Board Member, Minor League Baseball, Reid Ryan, Executive Board Member, Minor League Baseball, Scott Howson, President and Chief Executive Officer, American Hockey League, Doug Price, Commissioner, Southern Professional Hockey League, Chad Volpe, Executive Board Member, Minor League Baseball, Ken Babby, Executive Board Member, Minor League Baseball, Ryan Crelin, Commissioner ECHL, Alec Papadakis, Chief Executive Officer, United Soccer League, Joshua Schaub, Commissioner, American Association of Professional Baseball, Steve Tahsler, Deputy Commissioner, Frontier League of Professional Baseball, Dan Moushon, President, Appalachian League, Rick White, President, Atlantic League of Professional Baseball, Mike Shapiro, President, Pioneer Baseball League.

COMMUNITY GYMS COALITION

AND IHRSA,

May 17, 2022.

On behalf of America's more than 40,000 fitness facilities fighting to foster and strengthen Americans' health and fitness, the Community Gyms Coalition

(CGC) and IHRSA, the global health and fitness association, enthusiastically endorse S. 4008, the Small Business COVID Relief Act of 2022, and call on Congress to enact it as soon as possible.

COVID-19, and almost every state's response to it, has devastated America's gyms and fitness facilities. As of December, more than 25 percent of fitness facilities in the U.S.—including 30 percent of studios—have closed permanently. Operators have suffered revenue losses of over \$29.2 billion. These figures have undoubtedly increased, leaving tens of thousands of operators struggling under debts taken on so that they could continue improving Americans' health and fitness.

Federal programs to support small businesses struggling due to COVID-19 have

proven to be of little benefit for most fitness facilities, leaving them little opportunity to recover from the initial shutdowns and restrictions. The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) do not meet the cost structures of fitness facilities. The Targeted EIDL Advance, the Supplemental Targeted Advance, and state-level grant programs have not provided nearly the funding necessary to keep many owners and operators from closing their facilities due to accrued debt and deferred rent or mortgage payments.

Due to these circumstances, gyms and fitness facilities still require specific support in order to offer their essential services. S. 4008 provides this support by establishing the Gym and Fitness Center Recovery Fund to dispense grants to distressed fitness facilities, and appropriating \$2 billion for that purpose. Publicly-traded companies, facilities with pandemic-related revenue losses less than 25 percent, and facilities which offer golf, hunting, sailing, shooting, or riding are expressly ineligible.

Gyms and fitness facilities, much like restaurants and other industries reliant on physical presence, were directly harmed by government-mandated closures and restrictions. Though gyms have suffered the same hardships as similarly affected businesses, they have not yet received effective aid. The Small Business COVID Relief Act would correct this oversight, saving thousands of gyms and fitness facilities across the country from bankruptcy.

We commend Senator Cardin and Senator Wicker for introducing the Small Business COVID Relief Act, and we urge every senator to support its passage. There is nothing more important than safeguarding the health and fitness of all Americans.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I know that there are Members who want to target this and so do we. We believe that we will be able to bring the cost of this bill down, but we first need to get on the bill.

I particularly want to thank Senator WICKER and Senator COLLINS and Senator MURKOWSKI for giving us suggestions, and we are going to permit amendments on this bill to bring its cost down.

Senator MANCHIN has made a specific suggestion on making sure we prioritize the payment of debt.

We also believe we can target this to the small businesses that need it the most.

I want to thank Senator OSSOFF. I want to thank Senator MURPHY. I want to thank Senator KING, our Presiding Officer there, and so many of our other Members who have been working with us in order to get this bill to the finish line.

I would urge my colleagues to vote for the motion to proceed. This is a cloture; this is not the final passage. This is to get on the bill so we can take up amendments, target it to those small businesses that desperately need it.

We have offsets in the bill. It is a responsible bill. It needs to be passed. It carries out our commitment, and I would urge our colleagues to support the legislation.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, on another important issue, small businesses across the country are still reeling from the pandemic. And as the Nation

finally begins to emerge from 2 years of lockdowns, our small business community is facing another set of challenges: supply shortages and inflation.

Later today, the Senate is expected to vote on legislation that would help restaurants, gyms, minor league teams, and other small businesses find solid footing after years of unprecedented disruptions. These small businesses are the lifeblood of our communities, whether it be in Chicago, my hometown of Springfield, or other towns across Illinois.

This bipartisan package would make sure that they can continue to recover and create jobs in their communities—because we know that, when these businesses struggle, our communities struggle. I have heard from small business owners throughout Illinois who want to keep workers on the payroll and provide a space for people to come together, but they need our help to get to the other side of the pandemic.

That is exactly the situation Kevin Cary is in. He owns Begyle Brewing in Chicago and is one of the hundreds of thousands of business owners in America who has tried to do everything right during this pandemic. He followed the rules when Chicago's COVID precautions forced him to temporarily close his doors . . . he has kept his staff employed throughout the pandemic; and he has braced through multiple waves of COVID—from Alpha to Omicron, which infected his staff, and forced him to keep his doors closed through the holiday season, a big time for business.

And Kevin is still doing his part to be a good neighbor. Even with the pressures of inflation, he has held off on raising prices because, in his words, "we're a community-supported brewery. I personally have a problem with charging more . . . [I] would rather fight pressures on cost than . . . raise prices on consumers."

But there is only so much business owners like Kevin can do on their own. Without additional relief, the prospects are bleak. Replenishing the Restaurant Revitalization Fund would allow Kevin to pay Begyle's bills that are past due, help him afford increasing supply costs, and enable him employ more Illinoisans. But most importantly, Kevin will be able to have the peace of mind that his business—which supports him, his wife, and his one-year old daughter—will keep its doors open.

Our favorite small businesses and restaurants bring us together. They have done their part to help us get through the pandemic, and now it is time for us to help them. I want to thank Senators WICKER and CARDIN, as well as many other colleagues on both sides of the aisle, for their work on this bipartisan package. I hope more of my Republican colleagues will join us in passing this much-needed relief for small businesses in our communities.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, now 2 years after the start of COVID, our

country has come very far, but it would be a dreadful mistake to think the work is done.

Today, the Senate should vote to move forward to give America's restaurants, local gyms, minor league teams, and other small businesses a much-needed lifeline. We will give our restaurants a much-needed lifeline to get back on their feet after the pandemic.

Our restaurants and small businesses are suffering. They need help. This bill says help is on the way.

These restaurants are the beating hearts of our communities. We are not talking about huge restaurants. They are not big venues with big publicity.

The restaurants we are talking about are family-owned restaurants, family-owned businesses, where Americans have always come together. They are the beating hearts of our communities.

To have banks foreclose on these places because they are struggling with loans left over from COVID when they were forced to close would be a tragedy—a tragedy for jobs lost, for the communities affected, and for creating future prosperity.

So the Senate should be leaping into action to support our restaurants and small businesses.

I want to thank the diligent, persistent work by the great Senator from Maryland, BEN CARDIN—the work he has done.

I want to thank his partner, Senator WICKER. This is a bipartisan bill.

And to just debate how we can help these vital parts of the American economy, these vital parts of American communities, is not too much to ask.

I urge both sides of the aisle for a strong yes vote.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 344, S. 4008, a bill to provide COVID relief for restaurants, gyms, minor league sports teams, border businesses, live venue service providers, exclave businesses, and providers of transportation services.

Charles E. Schumer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tammy Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Gary C. Peters, Ron Wyden, Elizabeth Warren, Jacky Rosen, Mark Kelly, Ben Ray Lujan, Catherine Cortez Masto, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Tammy Baldwin, Mazie K. Hirono, Maria Cantwell, Chris Van Hollen, Margaret Wood Hassan.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to S. 4008, a bill to provide COVID relief for restaurants, gyms,

minor league sports teams, border businesses, live venue service providers, exclave businesses, and providers of transportation services, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 192 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Peters
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Sanders
Blunt	Kaine	Schatz
Booker	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Sinema
Carper	Leahy	Smith
Casey	Lujan	Stabenow
Cassidy	Manchin	Tester
Collins	Markey	Warner
Coons	Menendez	Warnock
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warren
Duckworth	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Durbin	Murphy	Wicker
Feinstein	Murray	Wyden
Gillibrand	Ossoff	
Hassan	Padilla	

NAYS—43

Barrasso	Hagerty	Romney
Blackburn	Hawley	Rounds
Boozman	Hoeven	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Toomey
Daines	Moran	Tuberville
Fischer	Paul	Young
Graham	Portman	
Grassley	Risch	

NOT VOTING—5

Brown	Marshall	Van Hollen
Ernst	Rosen	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 43.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 855, Stephanie Dawkins Davis, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Cory A. Booker, Tammy Baldwin, Patrick J. Leahy,

Patty Murray, Tina Smith, Sheldon Whitehouse, John W. Hickenlooper, Gary C. Peters, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jeanne Shaheen, Jon Tester, Richard J. Durbin, Catherine Cortez Masto, Mazie K. Hirono, Amy Klobuchar, Maria Cantwell.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Stephanie Dawkins Davis, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "nay" and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "nay."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 48, nays 36, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 193 Leg.]

YEAS—48

Baldwin	Heinrich	Ossoff
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Padilla
Blumenthal	Hirono	Peters
Booker	Kaine	Reed
Cantwell	Kelly	Sanders
Cardin	King	Schatz
Carper	Klobuchar	Schumer
Casey	Leahy	Sinema
Collins	Lujan	Smith
Coons	Lujan	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tester
Duckworth	Markey	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warnock
Feinstein	Merkley	Warren
Gillibrand	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Graham	Murphy	Wyden
	Murray	

NAYS—36

Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Romney
Blunt	Hawley	Rubio
Boozman	Hoeven	Sasse
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Crapo	Lee	Thune
Cruz	Lummis	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Fischer	Paul	Wicker

NOT VOTING—16

Braun	Inhofe	Shaheen
Brown	Marshall	Tillis
Cassidy	Moran	Van Hollen
Cramer	Portman	Young
Ernst	Rosen	
Hassan	Rounds	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUIJÁN). On this vote, the yeas are 48, the nays are 36.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stephanie Dawkins Davis, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEATH OF SHIREEN ABU AKLEH

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I join Secretary Blinken in calling for a thorough, impartial investigation of the tragic death of widely respected Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, in the Jenin refugee camp on May 4. According to press reports, Israel has already launched an investigation. Some Members of Congress have called for the FBI to be involved. I echo that recommendation. The investigation will also require the participation of Palestinian authorities. Too often, shootings of unarmed civilians in the occupied territories have gone unpunished. This must not be one of those cases.

In addition, Israeli authorities must hold accountable those who were responsible for, and participated in, the chaos that erupted during Ms. Abu Akleh's funeral procession, when Israeli police beat mourners with batons, including the pallbearers, causing them to momentarily drop one end of the casket. The explanation provided by Israeli police officials, that mourners had been chanting nationalist slogans and waving Palestinian flags, in no way justifies their lack of judgment, disrespect, and use of unnecessary force in what should have been a solemn, peaceful procession deserving of their protection.

ALAA ABDEL FATTAH

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, last month, dozens of Egyptian political

prisoners, including journalists, opposition activists, and lawmakers, were released from pretrial detention—the second group since July last year. These individuals had been behind bars on charges of spreading fake news and collaborating with a terrorist organization, accusations that are frequently used to silence critics of the al Sisi government.

These releases were welcome news, but thousands of other opposition figures remain behind bars for acts of free speech and association that are not crimes under international law. One of those is Alaa Abdel Fattah, a blogger, software developer, and political activist who is also a British citizen, who has already spent years in prison. He is now reportedly in his 6th week of a hunger strike to protest the inhumane conditions he and other prisoners are forced to endure.

Mr. Abdel Fattah was arrested in September 2019, along with his lawyer, Mohamed El Bager, while on a 5-year probation period after his conviction for the non-crime of spreading “fake news,” requiring him to spend 12 hours of each day at a police station. He had been released only 6 months earlier after spending 4 years behind bars.

He received a 5-year sentence last December after spending more than 2 years in pre-trial detention. He has reportedly been denied access to reading and writing material and has not been exposed to sunlight in months. Visitation with a single family member is limited to a mere 20 minutes per month.

The Egyptian Government has pointed to the lifting of the longstanding emergency law in October and the release of a new human rights strategy as evidence of progress. Compared to nothing, that is arguably true. But as long as people like Mr. Abdel Fattah are denied due process and treated in ways reminiscent of the Middle Ages, it is hard to take seriously Egypt's new “human rights strategy.”

Egypt is an important ally of the United States. We share a common interest in a peaceful Middle East. But on human rights we have profound differences. I urge the Egyptian authorities to match their words with actions. A serious human rights strategy would include repealing laws that are used to criminalize speech and association, real consequences for ignoring maximum limits on pre-trial detention, and protections of the rights of prisoners. A good first step would be the immediate release of Mr. Abdel Fattah, who never should have been arrested in the first place.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, as my colleagues know, last weekend, I experienced a minor stroke in the form of a small venous tear at the back of

my head and, out of an abundance of caution, have been following my doctor's advice to remain under observation and rest for a few days. I am grateful for the warm wishes I have received from my colleagues and constituents from across Maryland and the excellent care of the medical team at George Washington University Hospital. Following my doctor's orders, I'll begin to ease back into my schedule.

Had I been present to vote today, I would have voted in favor of the critical package of aid for Ukraine. The people of Ukraine continue to stand up to Vladimir Putin's unprovoked attack, and today's aid package will deliver military and humanitarian aid to strengthen their forces and care for refugees. There was no reason to delay this crucial support, and I am glad it has finally passed.

I would have also voted in support of today's bill to deliver much-needed relief to restaurants and small businesses in Maryland and across the country who are still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. I hear regularly from these businesses, who have worked hard to stay afloat and continue to struggle through no fault of their own. America's restaurants are at the center of their communities, and we must support them through this unprecedented time. I am disappointed that many of my Republican colleagues voted against proceeding today, and we once again saw the damage of the filibuster to progress for the American people. I will continue to work to persuade my colleagues of the urgency of this support.

I look forward to returning soon to work alongside you all for the people of my great State of Maryland.●

SMALL BUSINESS COVID RELIEF ACT

Mr. OSSOFF. Mr. President, restaurants in Georgia have been among the small businesses worst hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, and I am working every day to help them recover and thrive. Today, I voted that the Senate should proceed to debate S. 4008, the Small Business COVID Relief Act, legislation intended to help businesses impacted by COVID-19, including small, independent restaurants that were unable previously to access emergency relief via the Restaurant Revitalization Fund.

However, should the Senate proceed to debate this measure, as I voted today that we should, the bill should be amended such that it is well targeted and more fiscally responsible in order to earn my support in a vote on final passage. While I support this legislation's aims—helping small businesses, especially small and independent restaurants—and while I believe we should proceed to debate it, I would oppose it in its present form should such modifications not be adopted.

I appreciate the support of the bill's lead sponsor, Senator CARDIN, who has

committed to work with me to ensure this bill is tailored to help the small, independent neighborhood restaurants most in need of help in a fiscally responsible way.

CONFIRMATION OF BARBARA A. LEAF

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise in support of Ambassador Barbara Leaf to be Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.

It has been almost 400 days since President Biden announced this nomination to one of the most critical regions in the world when it comes to U.S. foreign policy interests. It is unconscionable that the post has remained vacant for so long.

Since her hearing at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the region has only become more complicated. Libya has been stuck in a stalemate since failed elections. In Tunisia, the President sacked the Prime Minister and suspended Parliament in a coup against democratically elected representatives. ISIS remains active in Syria, attacking a prison with guns and car bombs to free extremists earlier this year. A fragile ceasefire in Yemen followed blatant attacks on the UAE and Saudi Arabia by Iranian-backed Houthis using drones and missiles. Our staunch ally Israel is fending off rocket attacks. Iran is engaging in brinksmanship as negotiations drag on over its nuclear program, which has the potential to transform the balance of power in the region. And the Russian war against Ukraine has set off a major global food security crisis across Africa and the Middle East, adding to an already strained humanitarian situation in parts of the region.

Meanwhile, there are opportunities to seize. Our diplomacy in the Negev Summit process is as important as ever. Elections in Lebanon, government formation in Iraq—they are all developments that require deft American diplomacy.

These are some of the most important issues we confront in American foreign policy. We must have our A-team in place to advance American leadership and values. And no one is better suited for this job than Barbara Leaf, a dedicated public servant who devoted her career to the Foreign Service.

She has served as our Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Arabian Peninsula in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs. She directed the critical Basrah U.S. Provincial Reconstruction Team on the ground in Iraq, and she was the Department's first Director of the Office of Iranian Affairs. She speaks Arabic, French, Italian, and Serbo-Croatian.

She currently works as the Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Middle East and North Africa Affairs on the National Security Council. She is up to speed and ready

to hit the ground running as Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.

The Senate's failure to confirm Ambassador Leaf earlier left a critical post vacant and the United States without a strong and powerful advocate for our Nation's interests across the Middle East and around the world. It is long past time for Ambassador Leaf to be in her Senate-confirmed role advancing our interests. I am pleased that Assistant Secretary Leaf can now begin to tackle the many challenges that await her.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmations of Executive Calendar No. 907, S. Lane Tucker, of Alaska, to be United States Attorney for the District of Alaska or the term of four years; Executive Calendar No. 916, Rachelle L. Crowe, of Illinois, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois for the term of four years; Executive Calendar No. 917, Jesse A. Laslovich, of Montana, to be United States Attorney for the District of Montana for the term of four years; Executive Calendar No. 918, Alexander M.M. Uballez, of New Mexico, to be United States Attorney for the District of New Mexico for the term of four years.

RECOGNIZING THE GLOBAL MEDICAL RESPONSE STARS OF LIFE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, in honor of EMS Week, I rise to recognize the 57 Global Medical Response Stars of Life award recipients for 2020 through 2022.

Heroic acts by EMS professionals happen every day across the globe. In the State of Missouri, Global Medical Response has two ground ambulance operations and 12 air ambulance operations stationed strategically to best support our rural communities. Every day, these professionals are called upon, but two instances come to mind that truly illustrate their dedication.

In November of 2020, the air evac lifeteam flight crew—Flight Nurse Lisa Pittman, Flight Paramedic Rayna Periman, and Pilot Randy Varady—out of Perryville were called to action and, within minutes, were at the bedside of a senior diagnosed with an abdominal aortic aneurysm. When time mattered most, this care team made the difference in saving a life.

In February 2021, a high school student driving home from football practice was broadsided by a speeding semitruck. This time, Flight Paramedic Eric Schowe and Flight Nurse Stephanie McMillan were ready at a moment's notice to provide life sustaining care on board the EMS helicopter to help this student beat the odds.

Each year, the American Ambulance Association—AAA—honors and celebrates the most distinguished of Emer-

gency Medical Services professionals for their acts of service, dedication to their communities, and commitment to excellence through the Stars of Life program. Global Medical Response, a member of the AAA and the world's largest provider of emergent and non-emergent medical transportation and healthcare services, recognizes an elite group of individuals, ranging from emergency medical technicians and paramedics, to fire service professionals, nurses, dispatch specialists, and highly-skilled aviators.

To be a Stars of Life award recipient means to go above and beyond the call of duty. It means being ready to help a stranger, both on the ground and in the air with the care they need at that moment. It means always doing what is right for the patient, in every circumstance. To be a Star means to show compassion in the most difficult and humbling moments of a person's life. For some, it means making the ultimate sacrifice.

It is important to remember the ones who are no longer with us but left an indelible mark of excellence on the world. May we never forget their heroism, acts of kindness, and unselfish sacrifice that not only made a difference to the people they helped, but also a lasting impression on the entire Emergency Medical Services community. To their families and dearest loved ones, may you feel peace in knowing their lives will never be forgotten.

The Global Medical Response Stars of Life award recipients and all members of the Emergency Medical Services community at large are a shining light in our post-pandemic world and must be recognized as so. As such, I respectfully request that each of them be included in today's record, to honor their immense contributions and unwavering loyalty to their community while providing care to the world at a moment's notice.

Lauryn Allgood, Flight Nurse of Opelousas, LA

Brad Andrews, EMT of Tucson, AZ
Olga Borozinski, Flight Nurse of Las Vegas, NV

Loretta Burton, Paramedic of Youngstown, OH

Larry Cardwell, Flight Paramedic of Sacramento, CA

Destiny Carter, Paramedic of Colorado Springs, CO

Luke Combs, Pilot of Rosebud, SD
Mathew Cox, Paramedic of Stockton, CA
Amira Drakes, EMT of Trinidad & Tobago
Ismael Esparza, Paramedic of Palm Springs, CA

Peter Gauna, EMT of Stafford, AZ
Holly Griswold, Operations Supervisor of Cochise County, AZ

Scott Hedrick, Paramedic of Evansville, IN
Clifford Jacks, Paramedic of Concord, CA
Adam Martin, Paramedic of Buffalo, NY
Bryan McKeon, Paramedic of Monterey, CA

Will Moser, Regional Manager of Clinical Practices of Juneau, AK

Diana Priego, Flight Nurse of Sacramento, CA

Mathew Scott, Base Pilot Supervisor of Eagle Pass, TX

Mary Springer, LMS National Administrator of North Charleston, SC

Rain Swift, RN & EMT of Aiea, HI
James Tarver, Assistant Operations Supervisor of Natchez, MS

Wendy Unmacht, Paramedic of Nashville, TN

Joshua Young, Flight Respiratory Therapist of Perrysburg, OH

Carlos Valdez Acosta-Meza, Paramedic Supervisor of San Diego County, CA

Micheline Allaire Clement, Flight Nurse of Ypsilanti, MI

Renata Baboolal, EMT of Trinidad and Tobago

Frank Berlanga, Paramedic of Nashville, TN

Darla Biggerstaff, Paramedic of Waco, TX

Lance Blythe, Flight Paramedic of Fayette County, GA

Jeffery Boyd, Operations Supervisor of Linn County, KS

Eric Bradshaw, Firefighter/Paramedic of Knoxville, TN

Kyle Brule, Lead Paramedic of Stone Mountain, GA

James Burns, EMT of Seattle, WA

Pete Carlson, Paramedic Field Training Officer of Multnomah and Josephine counties, OR

Jason Dau, Flight Nurse of Kotzebue, AK

Dubravka Frost, Paramedic of Contra Costa County, CA

Michael Gibson, Flight Nurse of Salinas, CA

Cathy Heikes, Flight Nurse of Dodge City, KS

Kimberly Hiner, EMT of Hemet, CA

Brooke Holoubek, Flight Nurse of Napa, CA

Franchon Jackson, Dispatch Communications Supervisor of Jackson, MS

Bryanna Johnson, Base Clinical Nurse Lead of Harrisburg, IL

Daniel MacDowell, Reserve Firefighter of Grants Pass, OR

Cassandra Moreno, EMT of Tucson, AZ

Nicole Piazza, Paramedic of West Hartford, CT

Jack Rathgeber, Field Supervisor of Alamogordo, NM

KC Robbins, Paramedic Supervisor of Macomb, IL

Dylan Schoch, Paramedic of Prescott, AZ

Robert Sebree, Paramedic of Ventura County, CA

Lauren Van Damme, Fixed Wing Pilot of Greenville, SC

Mario Vialpando, Field Training Officer of Pueblo, CO

Lauri Wempen, Flight Paramedic of Riverton, WY

Todd Wobbe, Paramedic of Belleville, IL

Posthumous Honors

Jacob Dindinger, EMT of Tucson, AZ

Clifford Fontaine, AEMT of Las Vegas, NV

William Levi, AEMT of Las Vegas, NV

TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL SARA JOYNER

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I rise today to wish to recognize and congratulate Rear Admiral Sara Joyner of the U.S. Navy on her faithful service to our Nation as the Department of the Navy's Chief of Legislative Affairs from May 2020 to May 2022.

An amazing leader and warfighter, Rear Admiral Joyner demonstrated outstanding commitment to strengthening the Navy's relationship with the Members of Congress during a turbulent time for our country and institutions as the world navigated a global pandemic that fundamentally changed the way we all interact, communicate,

and live. As COVID-19 brought some organizations to a complete stand-still, Rear Admiral Joyner found new and innovative ways to keep open the lines of communication between the Department of the Navy and Congress, ensuring that the work we do on behalf of the Nation, our sailors, marines and their families went on.

As the first woman ever to command a Super Hornet squadron and then Carrier Air Wing, with a career legacy of breaking down barriers, it is no surprise Rear Admiral Joyner brings tenacity to any job, a quality both necessary and appreciated here on Capitol Hill. She understood the importance of maintaining a strong partnership between senior Navy leadership and the Hill, and never shied away from tough conversations. With enormous pride, she shared the wonderful stories and accomplishments of our sailors and marines, while also representing the Navy with professionalism and grace when the news was not good and, at times even heartbreaking.

Rear Admiral Joyner has a clear-eyed understanding of our Nation's resurgent adversaries and the future implications for our maritime forces, specifically about the Columbia-class, shipbuilding, maintenance, and technology; a great spirit, she was fond of laughing about how a naval aviator could spend so much time talking about submarines. Her team is the reason senior Navy leaders are always well prepared in hearings, calls, and briefings.

Rear Admiral Joyner's team has worked tirelessly to educate the Members of Congress and our staff on the challenging issues facing the Department of the Navy, support hearings on vital issues, ensure the annual National Defense Authorization Acts are thoughtfully developed, as well as assist with providing diligence to the countless requests for assistance from our constituents. Her liaisons escorted congressional delegations on travel around the world with professionalism and a remarkable level of attention to the smallest details. On behalf of my colleagues and the entire U.S. Senate, I want to personally thank Rear Admiral Sara Joyner for her more than three decades of dedicated service to the Navy and our Nation. She will certainly be missed. I especially want to recognize and thank her incredibly supportive husband, James, and children Sara and Mark, and wish them "fair winds and following seas."

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES HOUGH

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today, I have the distinct honor of recognizing Dr. James Hough of Lewis and Clark County as Montanan of the Month for his compassion and kindness toward his fellow Montana veterans and his dedication to providing them with the quality care they deserve.

Dr. Hough began his career of service at the Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, FL, and was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for Excellence in Anesthesia and Pain Management. He began his work serving as the only pain management provider in Montana for the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2018. Dr. Hough started with just a few patients, and over the past few years, he has rapidly expanded his reach, having a meaningful impact on the lives of thousands of Montana veterans across the State.

One of Dr. Hough's many success stories is with a veteran from Billings who was in a wheelchair and in low spirits thinking his quality of life would never improve. He and his wife took regular trips from Billings to visit Dr. Hough for consultations and procedures. Dr. Hough's patient progressively moved from a wheelchair, to a walker, to a cane, and eventually needing little to no support. The veteran's wife expressed how his demeanor and outlook on life was improved with Dr. Hough's help.

It is clear that Dr. Hough truly cares about his patients and ensuring many generations of Montana veterans have the quality of life they deserve. Dr. Hough truly embodies the values and spirit of a Montanan. It is my honor to recognize Dr. Hough for his service to our great State and Nation and for his dedication to improving the lives of his fellow Montana veterans. Keep up the great work, Dr. Hough. You make Montana and our country proud.●

RECOGNIZING CORETRANS

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week, I recognize an outstanding Kentucky small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize the small business, CoreTrans of Somerset, KY, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

As you all know, the legacy of the COVID-19 pandemic has burdened the global economy with tangled supply chains, drastically prolonged shipping schedules, and an insatiable level of consumer demand. Given this current climate it gives me great pleasure to honor a Kentucky small business operating on the front lines of the supply chain crisis. Founded in 2002, CoreTrans was started by Brian Whitaker, a third generation Whitaker in the transportation business. Brian and the whole team at CoreTrans have played a vital role in the recovery from the pandemic and subsequent government lockdowns and they continue to support local commerce within the community.

Brian Whitaker is the youngest of three generations of truckers. Perhaps it is that collective expertise between him and his family that has allowed Brian to lead CoreTrans through years of tremendous growth. Getting his

start in the early years of the new millennium, CoreTrans started out with 25 trucks. Now, CoreTrans includes a fleet of over 150 trucks, 300 53-foot dry van trailers, and a driver fleet of 200 drivers. Their trucks and trailers are equipped with state of the art aerodynamics and satellite based mobile communication systems, which allows their team to track and monitor all vehicles on a 24-hour basis. Though the business is outfitted with impressive technology, the CoreTrans staff and their years of experience are the most vital part of the operation.

The leadership and staff at CoreTrans understand that in this fast-paced world of online deliveries and instant gratification, time is money. Therefore, they operate with the knowledge that there is no room for error or broken promises. The mission of CoreTrans is to provide safe, on-time delivery of customer freight at a competitive rate with the most efficient and responsive customer service in the industry. Their name tells the whole story—CoreTrans, a name that highlights their commitment to efficiency just like their slogan: “At the CORE of Your Supply Chain!” Just take a look at CoreTrans’ track record, and you will see that their slogan is more than just words on a sign. The team has won a slew of awards throughout the past decade, including the 2012 National Safety Award, 2012 Carrier of the Year for Wausau Paper, a large customer of theirs; 2013 Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year, 2015 Great West Award, as well as several awards from Pulaski County’s March of Dimes.

Though CoreTrans maintains a reputation for its dependability and strong customer service, Brian Whitaker understands that giving back to the community is just as important as running an efficient fleet. Even before the pandemic struck, there was a shortage of crucial transportation workers. In 2019, Bloomberg estimated that the U.S. lacked roughly 300,000 truck drivers needed to fill the predicted level of consumer demand. Understanding this shortage, Brian decided to take action and made a donation to Somerset Community College—SCC—to kick-start their new truck driver-training program. That year, SCC received a 2007 Volvo sleeper truck courtesy of CoreTrans, which allowed the students to train in a real work setting while enrolled in the college’s commercial driver’s license or truck driver training program. Their donation not only helps the students of SCC, it bolsters the local and regional economy by creating a pipeline of truck drivers to fulfill Kentucky’s needs.

In 2021, Brian demonstrated that his charitable spirit expands beyond the students at SCC, as Western Kentucky dealt with the aftermath of devastating December tornados. Seeing how so many of their Western neighbors lost everything right before the Christmas season, CoreTrans teamed

up with Ricky Thomas, owner of Wildcat Used Cars, to collect supplies for the donation to Mayfield residents. Mr. Thomas knew the desire to help out the tornado-torn areas was strong within his community, but the logistics of hundreds of people driving several hours individually to donate goods was not practical. Instead, Mr. Thomas utilized his car lot as a drop-off site, and CoreTrans donated one of their tractor trailers for the job of transporting the supplies to Mayfield. Together, these two small businesses answered Kentuckians’ call during their time of need; and in true CoreTrans spirit, they did it in the most efficient way possible.

When Brian Whitaker opened up shop in 2002, he intended to create more than just a trucking company. His purpose was to start a business on which Kentucky could depend, on the road and in the warehouse. In executing this mission, CoreTrans became a business that supports local and regional commerce, fosters job creation, strengthens the supply chain, and carries out a vital part of our Nation’s economy by providing everyday citizens with the goods they need. Congratulations to Brian Whitaker and the entire team at CoreTrans. I wish them the best of luck and look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Kentucky.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Swann, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings).

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:06 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 2102. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide mammography screening for veterans who served in locations associated with toxic exposure.

S. 2533. An act to improve mammography services furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 4089. An act to restore entitlement to educational assistance under Veterans Rapid Retraining Program in cases of a closure of an educational institution or a disapproval of a program of education, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following

bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 350. An act to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism.

H.R. 2724. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for peer support specialists for claimants who are survivors of military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2992. An act to direct the Attorney General to develop crisis intervention training tools for use by first responders related to interacting with persons who have a traumatic brain injury, another form of acquired brain injury, or posttraumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5738. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to require a lactation space in each medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

H.R. 6052. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to require the employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive training developed by the Inspector General of the Department on reporting wrongdoing to, responding to requests from, and cooperating with the Office of Inspector General, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6064. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for a review of examinations, furnished by the Secretary to individuals who submit claims to the Secretary for compensation under chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code, for mental and physical conditions linked to military sexual trauma.

H.R. 6531. An act to provide an increased allocation of funding under certain programs for assistance in areas of persistent poverty, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6943. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize public safety officer death benefits to officers suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder or acute stress disorder, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6961. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve hearings before the Board of Veterans’ Appeals regarding claims involving military sexual trauma.

H.R. 7335. An act to improve coordination between the Veterans Health Administration and the Veterans Benefits Administration with respect to claims for compensation arising from military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7790. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations to address the shortage of infant formula in the United States for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7791. An act to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to establish waiver authority to address certain emergencies, disasters, and supply chain disruptions, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 2938. An act to designate the United States Courthouse and Federal Building located at 111 North Adams Street in Tallahassee, Florida, as the “Joseph Woodrow Hatcher United States Courthouse and Federal Building”, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 1091(b)(1)(E) of the

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology: Mr. Eric Emerson Schmidt of Los Angeles, California.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 66. An act to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes.

S. 1097. An act to establish a Federal rotational cyber workforce program for the Federal cyber workforce.

S. 1760. An act to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs planned to be built in Oahu, Hawaii, as the "Daniel Kahikina Akaka Department of Veterans Affairs Community-Based Outpatient Clinic".

S. 2201. An act to manage supply chain risk through counterintelligence training, and for other purposes.

S. 2514. An act to rename the Provo Veterans Center in Orem, Utah, as the "Col. Gail S. Halvorsen 'Candy Bomber' Veterans Center".

S. 2520. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for engagements with State, local, Tribal and territorial governments, and for other purposes.

S. 2687. An act to provide the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs testimonial subpoena authority, and for other purposes.

S. 3527. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to transfer the name of property of the Department of Veterans Affairs designated by law to other property of the Department.

S. 4119. An act to reauthorize the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

H.R. 4426. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure that the needs of children are considered in homeland security planning, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 2:25 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1872. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.

H.R. 7691. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance for the situation in Ukraine for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

At 2:50 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, an-

nounced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 7688. An act to protect consumers from price-gouging of consumer fuels, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1091(b)(1)(E)-(F) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2022, the Minority Leader appoints the following member to the National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology: Dr. Angela M. Belcher of Lexington, Massachusetts.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:17 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CONNOLLY) has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 7791. An act to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to establish waiver authority to address certain emergencies, disasters, and supply chain disruptions, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. WARNOCK).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2724. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for peer support specialists for claimants who are survivors of military sexual trauma, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 2992. An act to direct the Attorney General to develop crisis intervention training tools for use by first responders related to interacting with persons who have a traumatic brain injury, another form of acquired brain injury, or post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 5738. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to require a lactation space in each medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 6064. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for a review of examinations, furnished by the Secretary, to individuals who submit claims to the Secretary for compensation under chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code, for mental and physical conditions linked to military sexual trauma; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 6943. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize public safety officer death benefits to officers suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder or acute stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 6961. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve hearings before the Board of Veterans' Appeals regarding claims involving military sexual trauma; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 7335. An act to improve coordination between the Veterans Health Administration and the Veterans Benefits Administration

with respect to claims for compensation arising from military sexual trauma, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 4261. A bill to suspend duties and other restrictions on the importation of infant formula to address the shortage of infant formula in the United States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 350. An act to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism.

H.R. 7688. An act to protect consumers from price-gouging of consumer fuels, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7790. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations to address the shortage of infant formula in the United States for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 350. An act to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism.

H.R. 7688. An act to protect consumers from price-gouging of consumer fuels, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7790. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations to address the shortage of infant formula in the United States for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

S. 4261. A bill to suspend duties and other restrictions on the importation of infant formula to address the shortage of infant formula in the United States, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 407. A bill to provide redress to the employees of Air America (Rept. No. 117-113).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 4258. A bill to prevent conflicts of interest and promote competition in the sale and purchase of digital advertising; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 4259. A bill to create a Council on Emergency Response Protocols to ensure the establishment of accessible, developmentally appropriate, culturally aware, and trauma-informed emergency response protocols in public schools, early child care and education settings, and institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. REED):

S. 4260. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 4261. A bill to suspend duties and other restrictions on the importation of infant formula to address the shortage of infant formula in the United States, and for other purposes; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 4262. A bill to temporarily allow the importation of infant formula free of duty and free of quantitative limitation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 4263. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to require licenses to acquire or receive firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 4264. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require States to develop a strategy to integrate and coordinate Medicaid and Medicare coverage for full-benefit dual eligible individuals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 4265. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase and provide an inflation adjustment for the limitation on distributions from qualified tuition programs that may be used for elementary and secondary tuition; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 4266. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 to increase funding for stormwater management for Atlanta, Georgia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 4267. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a tax credit for qualified health insurance premiums of eligible retired public safety officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 4268. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to health care providers to enhance the physical and cyber security of their facilities, personnel, and patients; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 4269. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to award grants to State, local, and Tribal governments to purchase and distribute anti-blood loss supplies for use in a medical emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 4270. A bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to require the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to approve commencing, intervening in, or participating in certain litigation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4271. A bill to reauthorize the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4272. A bill to improve promotion practices in the National Guard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 4273. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide States with resources to support efforts to integrate or coordinate Medicare and Medicaid benefits for individuals that are eligible for both programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LUJAN (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 4274. A bill to improve the Federal effort to reduce wildfire fire risks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 4275. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to eligible entities to carry out educational programs that include the history of peoples of Asian and Pacific Islander descent in the setting and founding of America, the social, economic, and political environments that led to the development of discriminatory laws targeting Asians and Pacific Islanders and their relation to current events, and the impact and contributions of Asian Americans to the development and enhancement of American life, United States history, literature, the economy, politics, body of laws, and culture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 4276. A bill to improve services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs for veteran families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 4277. A bill to require public institutions of higher education to disseminate information on the rights of, and accommodations and resources for, pregnant students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 4278. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the purchase of certain firearms by individuals under 21 years of age, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 4279. A bill to increase efficiency and conservation in public water systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 4280. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to remove carbon dioxide directly from ambient air or seawater, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 4281. A bill to prohibit data brokers from selling, reselling, trading, licensing, or otherwise providing for consideration lists of military servicemembers to a covered nation; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PORTMAN:

S. 4282. A bill to provide COVID relief for restaurants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 4283. A bill to authorize the confiscation of assets of the Russian Federation and the use of such assets to offset costs to the United States of assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 4284. A bill to establish Federal policies and procedures to notify the next-of-kin or other emergency contact upon the death, or serious illness or serious injury, of an individual in Federal custody, to provide model policies for States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes to implement and enforce similar policies and procedures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 4285. A bill to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, to encourage governments in the Americas to reinforce their commitments to the principles enshrined in the Inter-American Democratic Charter, to reaffirm the role of free and fair elections as a cornerstone of democracy, to address the challenges posed by disinformation and misinformation in the Americas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 4286. A bill to direct the Attorney General to develop crisis intervention training tools for use by first responders related to interacting with persons who have a traumatic brain injury, another form of acquired brain injury, or post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. COONS):

S. 4287. A bill to permit COPS grants to be used for the purpose of increasing the compensation and hiring of law enforcement officer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LUJAN:

S. 4288. A bill to allow manufacturers and sponsors of a drug to use alternative testing methods to animal testing to investigate the safety and effectiveness of a biological product; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S.J. Res. 47. A joint resolution directing the Federal Trade Commission to investigate and report on anticompetitive practices and

violations of antitrust law in the beef packing industry; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. Res. 644. A resolution establishing a Women's Bill of Rights to reaffirm legal protections afforded to women under Federal law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 645. A resolution to authorize testimony and representation in United States v. Hale-Cusanelli; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 646. A resolution expressing the Senate's support for Finland and Sweden's accession into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the expedited ratification of accession protocols; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 312

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 312, a bill to expand eligibility for and provide judicial review for the Elderly Home Detention Pilot Program, provide for compassionate release based on COVID-19 vulnerability, shorten the waiting period for judicial review during the COVID-19 pandemic, and make other technical corrections.

S. 601

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 601, a bill to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing.

S. 844

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 844, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care.

S. 978

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 978, a bill to provide for the adjustment or modification by the Secretary of Agriculture of loans for critical rural utility service providers, and for other purposes.

S. 1014

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1014, a bill to reform sen-

tencing laws and correctional institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 1116

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1116, a bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employees duty, and for other purposes.

S. 1136

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1136, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1548

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1548, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the diversity of participants in research on Alzheimer's disease, and for other purposes.

S. 1625

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1625, a bill to authorize notaries public to perform, and to establish minimum standards for, electronic notarizations and remote notarizations that occur in or affect interstate commerce, to require any Federal court to recognize notarizations performed by a notarial officer of any State, to require any State to recognize notarizations performed by a notarial officer of any other State when the notarization was performed under or relates to a public Act, record, or judicial proceeding of the notarial officer's State or when the notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

S. 2037

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2037, a bill to amend title XVIII to strengthen ambulance services furnished under part B of the Medicare program.

S. 2061

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2061, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure coverage of mental health services furnished through telehealth.

S. 2151

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator

from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2151, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide that COPS grant funds may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities.

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2151, supra.

S. 2169

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2169, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect more victims of domestic violence by preventing their abusers from possessing or receiving firearms, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish a grant program relating to the removal of firearms from adjudicated domestic violence offenders, and for other purposes.

S. 2340

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2340, a bill to improve the safety and security of the Federal judiciary.

S. 2409

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2409, a bill to require the Secretary of Labor to maintain a publicly available list of all employers that relocate a call center or contract call center work overseas, to make such companies ineligible for Federal grants or guaranteed loans, and to require disclosure of the physical location of business agents engaging in customer service communications, and for other purposes.

S. 2726

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2726, a bill to provide for competitive grants to support access to affordable housing and the enhancement of mobility for residents in disadvantaged communities or neighborhoods.

S. 2738

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2738, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and lifesaving actions in Vietnam.

S. 3091

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3091, a bill to amend the

Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish the advanced solar manufacturing production credit.

S. 3210

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3210, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend to Black veterans of World War II, and surviving spouses and certain direct descendants of such veterans, eligibility for certain housing loans and educational assistance administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 3421

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3421, a bill to clarify that section 107 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act applies sanctions with respect to unmanned combat aerial vehicles following a 2019 change by the United Nations providing additional clarity to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms.

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3421, *supra*.

S. 3538

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3538, a bill to establish a National Commission on Online Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention, and for other purposes.

S. 3854

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3854, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community based services for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 3860

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors of S. 3860, a bill to establish a grant program to provide assistance to local governments with fewer than 200 law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 3992

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3992, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the deduction for certain expenses of elementary and secondary school teachers.

S. 4003

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4003, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for training on alternatives to use of force, de-escalation, and mental and behavioral health and suicidal crises.

S. 4004

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4004, a bill to alter requirements associated with small business loan data collection, and for other purposes.

S. 4007

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors of S. 4007, a bill to require the Attorney General to propose a program for making treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder and acute stress disorder available to public safety officers, and for other purposes.

S. 4091

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4091, a bill to amend part A of title XI of the Social Security Act to provide grants to States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes to establish, expand, or maintain Drug Overdose Fatality Review Teams.

S. 4105

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4105, a bill to treat certain liquidations of new motor vehicle inventory as qualified liquidations of LIFO inventory for purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

S. 4120

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4120, a bill to maximize discovery, and accelerate development and availability, of promising childhood cancer treatments, and for other purposes.

S. 4124

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4124, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds for the Disinformation Governance Board of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

S. 4172

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4172, a bill to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 to modify the limitation on discharge of members of the Armed Forces solely on the basis of failure to obey a lawful order to receive a vaccine for COVID-19, and for other purposes.

S. 4255

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4255, a bill to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism.

S. 4256

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 4256, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prevent food shortages, including shortages of infant formula and certain medical foods.

S. 4257

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 4257, a bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to establish requirements for infant formula cost containment contracts, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 38

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 38, a concurrent resolution declaring a state of emergency due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, in order to establish a waiver of the minimum tonnage requirements of section 55305 of title 46, United States Code.

S. RES. 334

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 334, a resolution memorializing those impacted by and lost to the COVID-19 virus.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED
BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself and
Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4271. A bill to reauthorize the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I am pleased to be joined by Senator MURKOWSKI in the introduction of the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act Reauthorization. As we know too well, rates of suicide have risen to epidemic levels in the United States. On average, there are 130 suicides every day, roughly one every 11 minutes, making it the 10th leading cause of death among all age groups and second among people ages 10 to 24. These are staggering statistics behind which there are stories of immeasurable loss.

After the tragic death of his son by suicide at the age of 22, our former colleague Senator Gordon Smith rallied support from Members across the aisle and in both Chambers to pass legislation focused on preventing suicide among children and young people. Since 2004, the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act has provided critical resources for schools—from elementary school through college—to help at-risk youth. Funding under this program has supported hundreds of youth suicide prevention activities in all States, as well as providing grants to Tribes and tribal organizations, territories, and institutions of higher education in order to help them in their efforts to address mental health and prevent suicides among students.

The bill Senator MURKOWSKI and I are introducing today would increase the authorized grant level for proven programs and initiatives designed to address mental illness and reduce youth suicide. It will enable more schools to offer critical services and make needed improvements to help the Garrett Lee Smith programs better serve students.

Nationwide, suicide rates have skyrocketed over the last decade. In 2020, nearly 46,000 Americans lost their lives to suicide. That same year, there were 1.2 million suicide attempts. We must renew our efforts on suicide prevention and take a holistic approach. Despite the troubling national trend, Garrett Lee Smith programs are making a difference and have contributed to declines in the youth suicide rate in my home State of Rhode Island over the last decade.

Today, I am pleased to have the opportunity to partner with Senator MURKOWSKI in introducing the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act Reauthorization. This bill is part of suite of initiatives Congress can put in place to address mental health and suicide crisis among young people in our country. I look forward to working with Senator MURKOWSKI and advocates in Rhode Island and across the country to make a difference in addressing this epidemic.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 4275. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to eligible entities to carry out educational programs that include the history of peoples of Asian and Pacific Islander descent in the setting and founding of America, the social, economic, and political environments that led to the development of discriminatory laws targeting Asians and Pacific Islanders and their relation to current events, and the impact and contributions of Asian Americans to the development and enhancement of American life, United States history, literature, the economy, politics, body of laws, and culture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, this month, as we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, we have an important opportunity to recognize the significant contributions Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander, AANHPI, individuals and communities have made to the development and enhancement of American life and culture.

Despite their noteworthy contributions in various spaces—including literature, the economy, politics and law, arts and science, and education—AANHPI individuals and communities have largely been excluded or erased from our shared history as Americans.

Look no further than our K–12 public schools. In many instances, the teaching of Asian Pacific American, APA, history has been limited to passing references or minor footnotes that barely scratch the surface of these diverse and resilient communities. When it comes to APA history, few milestones are discussed; furthermore, the uniqueness of these individuals and the communities in which they live is rarely highlighted. Oftentimes, AANHPI individuals are depicted as foreigners, as opposed to people who have lived in our country for generations. These narratives fuel xenophobia and racism that has resulted in a rise in attacks and hate-related incidents against AANHPI communities in recent years.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is a time of celebration but also a reminder of the many challenges our communities have faced, including the Chinese Exclusion Act, Executive order 9066, which led to the internment of Japanese-Americans during WWII, decades of racist laws, and the rise in anti-Asian hate crimes in recent years. Members of our AANHPI communities have long been the target of discriminatory treatment in this country, challenges we must continually work to overcome. That is why I am introducing the Teaching Asian Pacific American History Act for the 117th Congress.

In short, this legislation would promote the teaching of APA history in

our public schools. At a time when many are challenging what is taught in our Nation's schools, it is important that we work to ensure our K–12 curricula accurately reflect the breadth of our Nation's history. Many States are already working to make sure our students have opportunities to learn about the complex history of our AANHPI communities. The bill would ensure Federal resources, available through the U.S. Department of Education's American history and civics programs, highlight the important contributions of these communities. The goal of the legislation is to make sure our students have a better understanding of who we are as a people—not just some of us but all of us.

As we commemorate the history and contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, and continue to work to combat the legacy of hatred, violence, and discrimination against our communities, this bill is a step toward ending the misguided perception of AANHPIs as outsiders or “others.” The Teaching Asian Pacific American History Act would enable K–12 teachers and students to better understand the racism and prejudice that AANHPIs have endured for decades and the many achievements and contributions of these communities.

With that, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself,
Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY,
and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 4278. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the purchase of certain firearms by individuals under 21 years of age, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I am reintroducing legislation that would help ensure that an important safety provision in place for handguns will also apply to assault rifles.

Under current law, a firearms licensee may not sell or deliver a handgun to a buyer under the age of 21. However, this common-sense protection does not apply to assault rifle purchases. This loophole costs lives.

Earlier this week in Buffalo, we saw the effects of allowing a young adult under the age of 21 to legally buy assault weapons. Tragic events, like the massacre in Buffalo, have become far too common in our country.

Last year, our Nation suffered from nearly 700 mass shootings, and this year, our country has already seen more than 200 mass shootings. And it is still only May. On average, more than one mass shooting every day.

Congress must do something to stop these incidents.

According to Everytown, people aged 18 to 20 commit 18 percent of all gun homicides in the United States, despite being only 4 percent of the total U.S. population.

So it makes sense that laws on books restrict individuals under the age of 21

to purchase a handgun. But the law doesn't apply to assault rifles.

It is simple logic: If you can't buy a beer, you should not be able to buy an assault weapon.

I urge my Republican colleagues to consider supporting this commonsense legislation that has wide public support. A recent poll conducted by POLITICO showed that 88 percent of Democrats and 68 percent of Republicans support requiring people to be 21 or older to purchase a firearm.

The Age 21 Act is a first step in the right direction. It is time for Congress to show the American public that we are taking action on an issue that touches the lives of millions of people every year.

I thank Senators BLUMENTHAL, CASEY, and KLOBUCHAR for their support and urge the rest of my colleagues to support the bill as well.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 4279. A bill to increase efficiency and conservation in public water systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Sustainability Act of 2022. This legislation would provide \$550 million for the Environmental Protection Agency to address water inefficiencies and losses in public water systems.

Leaking pipes waste an estimated 17 percent of water before a drop reaches a consumer's faucet. In my home State of California, 8 percent is wasted in a State that cannot afford any waste as we face the worst drought in 1,200 years.

Water efficiency is the most cost-effective way to ensure clean, affordable drinking water for communities across the country. Much like energy efficiency measures, improving water efficiency saves consumers money, reduces demand, decreases strain on water supply systems, and saves energy.

Yet Federal spending on energy efficiency and renewable energy has outpaced spending on water efficiency and water reuse by approximately 80 to 1 since 2000, resulting in millions of gallons wasted each year that could otherwise be saved or utilized.

The Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Sustainability Act of 2022 creates a suite of options for States, municipalities, water systems, and Tribal nations to address water inefficiencies and losses in public water systems and to support leak reduction as one of the most cost-effective urban water management tools we have.

Achieving widespread water efficiency will require both inside-the-home and inside-the-system upgrades. Fixes at the individual building level can add up to make a big difference. The EPA estimates that installation of water-efficient fixtures and appliances can reduce water use 20 percent, saves money for consumers as well.

The bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act provided a historic level of water infrastructure investment—including for Bureau of Reclamation States and for wastewater efficiency—but more investment is needed in the water systems that deliver drinking water to our homes and businesses across all States.

As the Western United States and much of the Southeast enter another year of historic drought, investing in resilient water supplies is an increasingly urgent priority for the States, water systems, and families facing rising water rates.

In a survey completed as part of a 2014 GAO report, 40 out of 50 State water managers expected water shortages in some portion of their State in the next decade. Improving water efficiency saves money, decreases strain on water supply systems, and saves energy.

I would like to thank my House colleague, Congressman McNERNEY, for championing this effort with me, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact the Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Sustainability Act of 2022 as we enter into the third year of this unprecedented, unrelenting drought.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 644—ESTABLISHING A WOMEN'S BILL OF RIGHTS TO REAFFIRM LEGAL PROTECTIONS AFFORDED TO WOMEN UNDER FEDERAL LAW

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 644

Whereas male and female individuals possess unique and immutable biological differences that manifest prior to birth and increase with age and puberty;

Whereas biological differences between the sexes mean that only females can get pregnant, give birth, and breastfeed children;

Whereas biological differences between the sexes mean that males are, on average, larger in size and possess greater body strength than females;

Whereas biological differences between the sexes can expose females to greater harm than males from specific forms of violence, including sexual violence;

Whereas women have achieved inspirational and significant accomplishments in education, athletics, and employment; and

Whereas recent misguided court rulings relating to the definition of "sex" have led to the endangerment of spaces and resources dedicated to women, thereby necessitating clarification of certain terms: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate reaffirms that—
(1) for the purpose of Federal law, the "sex" of an individual means his or her biological sex (either male or female) at birth;

(2) for the purpose of Federal law, the terms "woman" and "girl" refer to human females, and the terms "man" and "boy" refer to human males;

(3) for the purpose of Federal law, the word "mother" means a parent of the female sex and "father" is defined as a parent of the male sex;

(4) there are important reasons to distinguish between the sexes with respect to athletics, prisons, domestic violence shelters, restrooms, and with respect to other areas, particularly where biology, safety, and privacy are implicated;

(5) policies and laws that distinguish between the sexes are subject to intermediate constitutional scrutiny and permitted when they serve an important governmental objective and are substantially related to achieving that objective; and

(6) for the purposes of complying with Federal laws that require State and local government agencies to collect or report data disaggregated by sex, such as Federal anti-discrimination laws, agencies are required to base such data on the biological sex of individuals at birth.

SENATE RESOLUTION 645—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY AND REPRESENTATION IN UNITED STATES V. HALE-CUSANELLI

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. McCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 645

Whereas, in the case of United States v. Hale-Cusanelli, Cr. No. 21-37, pending in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the prosecution has requested the production of testimony from Daniel Schwager, a former employee of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, and from Nate Russell and Diego Torres, custodians of records in the Senate Recording Studio, a department of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§ 288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent current and former officers and employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for evidence relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate; and

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Daniel Schwager, a former employee of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, and Nate Russell and Diego Torres, custodians of records in the Senate Recording Studio, are authorized to provide relevant testimony in the case of United States v. Hale-Cusanelli, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Messrs. Schwager, Russell, and Torres, and any current or former officer or employee of their offices, in connection with the production of evidence authorized in section one of this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 646—EXPRESSING THE SENATE'S SUPPORT FOR FINLAND AND SWEDEN'S ACCESSION INTO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO) AND THE EXPEDITED RATIFICATION OF ACCESSION PROTOCOLS

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 646

Whereas Sweden and Finland are substantial contributors to the international community and play important roles in the United Nations, the European Union, the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe, and other international organizations;

Whereas, during the Cold War and since its end, Sweden and Finland sought to maintain peace in their region through policies of military non-alignment and neutral relations between Russia and the West, while nonetheless remaining true to their values and condemning the Russian government's authoritarian acts;

Whereas the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation on February 24, 2022, forced the transatlantic community to reconsider the geopolitical stability of their region;

Whereas NATO is the most successful political-military alliance in history and, guided by a set of common values, provides collective defense to nearly 1,000,000,000 people living in its member nations;

Whereas the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine marks the largest military conflict in Europe since World War II, representing a dramatic shift for European security and requiring NATO to change its policies to increase, modernize, and enhance its force posture and to create more strategic depth to adequately confront the new challenges, specifically those posed by Russia and China;

Whereas Sweden and Finland have provided incredible support to NATO-led operations, such as the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, KFOR in Kosovo, and peacekeeping operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Whereas both Finland and Sweden have been model members of NATO's Partnership Interoperability Initiative since its founding in 2014, and of NATO's Partnership for Peace since its founding in 1994;

Whereas NATO has a range of capabilities that can enhance the ability of Sweden and Finland to defend and deter conflict in their region;

Whereas Sweden and Finland have well-developed professional militaries and sophisticated defense industries that can provide NATO with new capabilities to bolster collective defense;

Whereas Sweden and Finland have proven their willingness and capability to contribute to cooperative international security efforts by donating military and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine and imposing coordinated sanctions on Russia;

Whereas each prospective NATO member is expected to have a functioning democratic political system based on a market economy, fair treatment of minority populations, a commitment to resolve conflicts peacefully, an ability and willingness to make contribution to NATO operations, and a commitment to democratic civil-military relations and institutions;

Whereas, alongside a number of our European allies, Finland and Sweden have recently announced the expansion and reform of their militaries, efforts that can be maximized if channeled toward collective security through the NATO framework;

Whereas the Arctic region, which holds increasing importance for United States and European security, has already seen encroachments from Russia and China, and Sweden and Finland are uniquely poised to address these regional challenges and help NATO confront them; and

Whereas Russia has threatened Sweden and Finland with "serious military and political consequences should it choose to join NATO": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) welcomes Finland and Sweden's decision to join NATO;

(2) acknowledges that Russia's invasion of Ukraine has dramatically changed the security situation in Europe, and that the reform and expansion of NATO is key to ensuring a safe and prosperous future for the United States and critical allies and partners;

(3) recognizes that Sweden and Finland have surpassed the qualifications expected of prospective members and that both countries have much to contribute and gain from membership in the NATO alliance;

(4) reaffirms its support for NATO's collective security commitment and for maximizing our allies' combined defense capabilities through NATO coordination and cooperation;

(5) calls on the President to move expeditiously to complete all documents and reports needed to support the Senate's approval of the accession protocols; and

(6) calls on all NATO members to move rapidly to complete their ratification processes.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5042. Ms. HIRONO (for Mr. CORNYN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2490, to establish the Blackwell School National Historic Site in Marfa, Texas, and for other purposes..

SA 5043. Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. HAGERTY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4008, to provide COVID relief for restaurants, gyms, minor league sports teams, border businesses, live venue service providers, exclave businesses, and providers of transportation services; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5044. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4008, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5042. Ms. HIRONO (for Mr. CORNYN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2490, to establish the Blackwell School National Historic Site in Marfa, Texas, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 4, strike lines 7 and 8 and insert the following:

(1) MAP.—The term "map" means the map entitled "Blackwell School National Historic Site Proposed Boundary", numbered 593/178387, and dated February 2022.

On page 5, strike lines 21 through 24.

On page 6, line 1, strike "(2)" and insert "(1)".

On page 6, line 4, strike "(3)" and insert "(2)".

SA 5043. Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. HAGERTY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4008, to provide COVID relief for restaurants, gyms, minor league sports teams, border businesses, live venue service providers, exclave businesses, and providers of transportation services; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title V, add the following:

SEC. 502. OFFSET OF COSTS USING UNOBLIGATED FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021.

Effective on the date of enactment of this Act, of the unobligated balances made available under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2; 135 Stat. 4), or an amendment made by such Act, there is rescinded, on a pro rata basis, the amount necessary to reduce the total amount of such unobligated balances by an amount equal to the total amount appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

SA 5044. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4008, to provide COVID relief for restaurants, gyms, minor league sports teams, border businesses, live venue service providers, exclave businesses, and providers of transportation services; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title V, insert the following:

SEC. 5. OFFSET OF COSTS USING UNOBLIGATED FUNDS FROM THE CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND AND THE CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND.

Effective on the date of enactment of this Act, of the unobligated balances made available under section 602(a) or 603(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 802(a), 803(a)), there is rescinded, on a pro rata basis, the amount necessary to reduce the total amount of such unobligated balances by an amount equal to the total amount appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I have six requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet

during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 9 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 11 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be granted floor privileges until August 19, 2022: Sarah Ryan, Caleb Waters, Caroline Decker, Sean Keating, Brett Logsdon, Katie Rock, Chip Wyatt, Garrison Danzer, Addison Scherler, Spencer Woodall, Katie Elliott, and Caleb Webb.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ACCESS TO BABY FORMULA ACT OF 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 7791, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7791) to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to establish waiver authority to address certain emergencies, disasters, and supply chain disruptions, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 7791) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, the Senate has just passed legislation to help ease the terrible nightmare parents are facing trying to find baby formula for their kids.

It is rare that we have unanimity in the Senate on important measures, and I wish we had more, but this is one of these important issues, and I am glad we are acting with one voice.

It is the stuff of nightmares for parents to race to the grocery store or the

drugstore only to find the shelves empty of baby formula or, even worse, maybe causing more anguish because there is formula on the shelf, but they can't buy it because WIC didn't allow them to. This shortage of baby formula is causing unimaginable stress, unimaginable anguish for parents, and immense harm on America's young kids.

There is already such a strain on parents of newborn children, especially in the times of COVID. The last thing parents and caregivers need is for it to be even harder to feed their children. The step we are taking today is going to add flexibility and relief to WIC beneficiaries, and almost half of all baby formula consumed in the United States is by WIC beneficiaries. Now millions of parents will have an easier time finding the baby formula they need.

I want to thank Senator STABENOW. She has been amazing in shepherding this through. She got it through the House. She came up with the idea. And now we are here to pass it in the Senate and send to the President's desk. She had a great partner in Senator BOOZMAN who stepped up to the plate as well. I thank them for championing this legislation.

As I mentioned, it already passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support, and I am glad it is passing the Senate.

Yesterday, President Biden invoked the DPA, Defense Production Act, to respond to the shortage of baby formula that is hurting parents and caretakers of newborns across the country. The President and Democrats in Congress are taking this issue seriously, and invoking the DPA was exactly the right response.

To the parents and caregivers of America, we hear you. We know this is an unacceptable crisis. The Senate is taking action. President Biden has taken action to increase imports of safe baby formula and to increase production of formula in our country. The House has taken action, and now the Senate is. We must keep going because there is more to do.

I yield to Senator STABENOW who, as I mentioned, did an amazingly great job on this issue.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I want to thank our leader who has been right there every moment giving us the opportunity to be able to move this through quickly.

I am very pleased to say the Access to Baby Formula Act, after Senator SCHUMER's actions, will be going to the President for his signature. This is really important as part of what we need to do to deal with an immediate crisis. The reality is that right this minute, moms and dads are trying to figure out what they are going to be able to do to give safe baby formula to their children. Is it on the shelf? Where will they have to go to get it? How many days, hours are we going to have to wait to do this? It is an incredible—incredible—emergency.

What I so appreciate is that we came together—House, Senate, Democrats and Republicans—and acted, frankly, I think faster than I anticipated from writing the bill in the beginning of the week to Thursday having it pass the House and now the Senate to go to the President.

I don't think we should be giving ourselves too many kudos here because I wish this hadn't happened in the very beginning. We shouldn't have seen what happened at the Abbott plant. In my mind, the FDA should have moved more quickly to respond to it. But when we became aware of all of this, we came together very quickly to do what we could.

The reality is that half of the baby formula in this country goes to moms and babies who are on a very important program that is called the Women, Infants, and Children's Program. We know that we have to do everything humanly possible to take away any barrier for them to be able to get this important food for children—to get baby formula for children—and that is what we have done to make sure that the USDA can act quickly.

I want to thank Secretary Vilsack, who in fact has acted quickly and who has worked with us on this legislation.

We also want to make sure that every manufacturer of baby formula going forward is required to participate in WIC to have a comprehensive plan of what to do in an emergency, what to do if their supply chain breaks down or something else that stops our moms and babies from getting what is essential daily nutrients for them to be healthy. This is an important program that has worked for a long, long time.

I am so pleased to have my friend and ranking member Senator BOOZMAN working with me. We came together very quickly. I want to thank our staffs for doing that as well.

This is not the only thing that needs to happen, but it is really important that we move forward and make it clear that if you are on WIC and you go to the grocery store and the formula that you are supposed to buy by grant is not available, but there is something else available, you can buy it. You can get it. We are not going to put any barriers up for your getting safe baby formula. This is an important piece.

I want to thank President Biden for acting as well, reaching out to our partners in the European Union to be able to import safe baby formula as fast as possible. There are other producers, manufacturers in the country increasing their production right now.

But the most important thing is that we let families know that we are going to do everything possible to make sure that their babies get what they need as soon as possible and that we understand—I certainly understand as a mom; I understand as a grandma—that this is a horror for families with babies.

And I am very appreciative that the U.S. Senate came together as quickly

and as in a bipartisan way as we have done to do our part—those of us on the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee—to make sure that those moms and babies whom we are responsible for through WIC are getting all the support that they can to make sure they can sleep easy at night, except when the baby is crying, of course—to be able to sleep easy at night and know that somebody is going to work as hard as possible to make sure they have the baby formula they need.

I would defer to my friend and partner, Senator BOOZMAN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Again, I want to compliment Senator STABENOW for her leadership in this area and, as she said, getting this done in a record amount of time. We are facing an infant formula shortage across the country, as we all know. Moms and dads in the most prosperous country on earth should never have to worry about their ability to obtain something as vital as baby formula.

One of the most vital nutrition programs, the WIC program provides formula to families in need across the country. These shortages have disproportionately impacted these families as it makes it more difficult to find formula on the shelves.

This legislation will benefit every American family by ensuring that formula manufacturers and regulators are always prepared to respond to any shortages or supply disruptions and by providing more flexibilities to USDA and States in helping parents meet their children's nutritional needs.

Our bill has the support of the National WIC Association and more than 250 other groups across the country and, most importantly, the support of 100 Senators, which we are very proud of.

I want to, again, give a special shout-out, a special thanks to Senator STABENOW and her staff and my staff, who worked very hard to get this done, and then also to the majority leader Senator SCHUMER for, again, pushing this through.

As Senator STABENOW said, I think this truly is a record amount of time and great collaboration amongst the House and the Senate and really is a very, very good example as to how we need to collaborate more.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

MR. BLUNT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor police week and recognize the service and sacrifice law enforcement officers make every day to protect communities across my State of Missouri and my hometown of Springfield, right here in the Capitol that you and I benefit from every day, and all across the country.

When I came to the Senate 11 years ago with Senator COONS, we founded

the Senate Law Enforcement Caucus, and I have had the privilege of working closely with many of Missouri's police officers, sheriff's departments, local, State, and county-level police officials, and Missouri Highway Patrol. And, frankly, in the Rules Committee work, I have worked closely with the Capitol Police here, and it is something I am pleased to be able to do.

The men and women that serve us really do put their lives on the line, and I am going to talk about that a little bit today. They made the choice to put the safety of their communities first, and I, like many others, are grateful to all of those who wear the badge and stand in front of danger for us.

Tragically, in the last year, five of Missouri's officers lost their lives in the line of duty.

Officer Blaize Madrid-Evans of the Independence Police Department was killed by a violent suspect evading arrest. Officer Madrid-Evans was just 22 years old, engaged to be married. He graduated from the academy 2 months earlier.

His mother Shannon said he could charm anyone he met growing up. One of the staff members at Smithville High School remembered him as a young man who spent time serving his community. She said:

He wouldn't hesitate to help a fellow student or another person. He was a wonderful leader and a wonderful friend. I have no doubt his impact would have been far-reaching in the years to come.

Indeed, it will be, as it turned out, because the selfless person that he was, he made a decision to be an organ donor and save the lives of others. One of the people being helped by his decision is Springfield, MO, Police Officer Mark Priebe, who was severely injured in the line of duty in 2020.

Officer Priebe received a donated kidney and after successful surgery said he hoped to honor Officer Madrid-Evans and his family by the way he lives his life. The ability that these two families—two law enforcement families—had to come together and find a purpose in tragedy is a statement to the power of faith and an inspiration, I think, to all of us.

Officer Madrid-Evans is survived by his fiancée Victoria Atkinson, his mother Shannon Evans, his step-mom Sharon Braley, his mother Michelle Madrid, his sister Jordyn Evans, along with his grandparents, uncles, an aunt, and a cousin.

Detective Antonio Valentine of the St. Louis County Police Department was killed during a vehicular pursuit. Detective Valentine was a 14-year veteran of the department, had served in the U.S. Army, including a tour in Iraq, and was recently retired from the U.S. Air Force.

His Uncle Scott, a fellow law enforcement officer with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department remembered him as a man who always put his family first. When he was a child, accord-

ing to his uncle, things were hard. His uncle said: "There is nothing like having to fight a roach for a cracker." But no matter what little the family had, Detective Valentine went without to be sure his siblings had what they needed.

As an adult, he often asked his uncle to make sure his kids, Jaylan, Alesha, Antonio, Jr., and Victoria were taken care of if something happened to him. I hope they will find strength in knowing how completely devoted their dad was to them and to all who benefited from his life of service.

Police Officer Lane Burns of Bonne Terre, MO, of that police department, was killed while responding to a violent disturbance. He was a 5-year veteran of the department. His fiancée Shannon Chasteen would often listen to the police radio while he was on duty, and she heard the call the night he lost his life that he responded to.

It is really a tragic reminder of how hard it is for families who never know when or where their loved one will be challenged and be in danger. And so those families are basically in danger all the time at someone's work, and they are wondering what that person may be facing at any moment.

Officer Burns is survived by Shannon and by his children Ivy Claire and Raiden Michael Burns, his parents Joe and Julie Burns, brothers Scott and Steve Burns, and his grandmother.

Officer Jake Reed and Corporal Benjamin Cooper, both of the Joplin Police Department, were fatally wounded responding to a disturbance. Officer Reed was a 5-year veteran of the department. Joplin Police Chief Sloan Rowland said: "Jake was the epitome of selfless service and sacrifice."

Like Officer Madrid-Evans, Officer Reed was also an organ donor, and he will continue to impact the lives of countless recipients and their loved ones who—thanks to his selflessness—will have more time together and a better quality of life.

Chief Rowland said of Officer Reed his "fervent hope is that some day those individuals will learn of this remarkable man and honor him with a life well lived. A life full of love and compassion, caring, and humor, just like Jake lived."

It completes the chief's quote about Jake but obviously doesn't complete his interest in Jake or the lives he saved or the people that Jake cared about, and that included his wife Bayley, with whom he would have celebrated his first anniversary earlier this month, as well as his parents, Robert and Melissa Reed, his brother Sam Reed, his in-laws, and a nephew.

CPL Benjamin Cooper was a U.S. Army veteran. He initially joined the Joplin Police Department in 2003 and returned in 2013 after spending time as a K-9 officer in Colorado.

His funeral brought together former colleagues from all over the country. His friend and former colleague, Rev. Brian Henderson, remembered him as an officer who didn't pull any punches

but “always had your back no matter what.”

Reverend Henderson also said despite his tough exterior, Corporal Cooper, or “Coop,” had a sneaky sense of humor he would share in the squad room to lighten the mood before shifts.

He is survived by his wife Roxy, two daughters, Tiffany Boyer and Ashley Cooper, his parents Steve and Joyce Cooper, sister Robyn Jensen and her husband, and two nephews.

These five people—and I wish I wasn’t here reading the names of five people today. These five people represent the determination of all of our Nation’s brave law enforcement officers to go above and beyond for their communities.

Three of these officers were lost in a span of roughly a week in March—Officer Burns, Officer Reed, and Corporal Cooper. Their loss was certainly a gut punch to the Missouri law enforcement community, and I was proud to join my colleague Senator HAWLEY in introducing a resolution to honor their service and sacrifice, which was adopted by the full Senate on May 10.

There are few jobs in this country as difficult, as dangerous, and as demanding as being a law enforcement officer or one of their family members. The challenges they face today are growing, as local departments struggle with staffing shortages caused by record-high departures and difficulty filling open positions. So everybody has to work harder than you would hope they would work at a job that is already hard enough.

This is all happening against the backdrop of a crimewave afflicting communities of all sizes all across the country.

This is, unfortunately, the predictable result of a movement that has

villainized law enforcement. And as co-chair of the Law Enforcement Caucus, one of my priorities has been to ensure law enforcement officers have the support and resources they need to do their jobs as safely and effectively as possible.

Ensuring Americans can live, work, and raise their families without fear should not be a partisan issue. We can all agree that there should be a zero-tolerance policy for police misconduct, and anyone who engages in that conduct should be held accountable. But we can’t allow the millions of outstanding public servants who put their lives on the line to question whether they have our full support and gratitude for the work they do. I know I do, and many of us every day thank the Capitol Police that we see multiple times during the day.

And I want to thank all of our Nation’s law enforcement officers for leaving their houses today or later tonight, as they do every day, to patrol and protect their communities. I offer my sincere prayer that each and every one returns home to their families safe and sound.

For all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in Missouri and across the country, I offer my deepest condolences to their families.

We must never forget their bravery and their service, even as we hope that next year there will be fewer names of the fallen to share.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME, EN BLOC—H.R. 350, S. 4261, H.R. 7688, AND H.R. 7790

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I understand that there are four bills at the

desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 350) to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism.

A bill (S. 4261) to suspend duties and other restrictions on the importation of infant formula to address the shortage of infant formula in the United States, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 7688) to prevent consumers from price-gouging of consumer fuels, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 7790) making emergency supplemental appropriations to address the shortage of infant formula in the United States for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

Ms. STABENOW. I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will receive their second reading on the next legislative day.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 4:07 P.M.
TODAY

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate adjourn until 4:07 p.m. today.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:06 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 4:07 p.m.